

The  
 Historical Society  
 of  
 South Australia  
 Inc.

Newsletter No. 94 May 1991

136

**"OUR JACK"**  
 REGD.



**HOT  
 PUNCH**

adds to your drink just the required warmth and delicious after flavor necessary for the complete enjoyment of a "nobler."

It is made entirely from the freshest ripe fruits and herbs with positively no injurious preservatives in its composition.

It is therefore wholesome and good, whether taken with Spirits, Ales, Wines, &c., or a little in Lemonade, Soda, or Seltzer.

It can also be safely given to children, as it assists greatly in cases of overeating, while bracing up the stomach and relieving indigestion.

TRY a dash in your own drink.  
 All good hotels stock—

**"Our Jack" Hot Punch**

*Bickford's*

**Currie Street, Adelaide.**

And MELBOURNE and SYDNEY.

# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000

## OBJECTS

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

## COUNCIL

\*\*\*\*\*

PATRON: Sir Walter Crocker, K.B.E

PRESIDENT: Dr R.P.J. Nicol 228 1749 (w), 297 9844 (h)  
VICE-PRESIDENT: Mr B.J. Samuels 223 8807 (w), 49 8104 (h)  
SECRETARY: Mr M. Keain 272 6888 (w), 390 1844 (h)  
TREASURER: Mrs A. Huckel 277 2953 (a h)  
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Mrs E. Ulbrich  
JOURNAL EDITOR: Dr J. D. Playford

MEMBERS: Mr H. Angas  
Mr R.M. Gibbs, A.M.  
Dr P.A. Howell  
Ms P. Payne  
Mr W. Stacy  
Ms P. Sumerling

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Dr I. Harmstorf  
AUDITOR: Mr R.H.B. Kearns

\*\*\*\*\*

FOUNDED IN 1974

Cover Illustration: An Advertisement from  
"A Memento of the First Commonwealth Bowling Carnival played at Adelaide, Xmas, 1910"

## COMING MEETINGS

FRIDAY, 14 JUNE 1991, 8PM

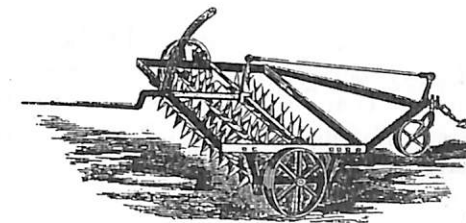
Venue : State Library Lecture Theatre

**Trevor Nottle: The Garden Heritage of South Australia.**  
An illustrated lecture

Gardens were made in South Australia even before the first official settlement; several permanent encampments on Kangaroo Island had vegetable gardens with staples such as onions, pumpkins and potatoes. Early colonists brought with them numerous living plants, often taken on board at the Cape of Good Hope, as well as seeds, bulbs and cuttings from England.

As the colony became established a vast assortment of 'likely plants were introduced and acclimatised in an endeavour to establish new cash crops such as cochineal and essential oils for perfumery; even dates were tried in a plantation at Maree. Many proved unsound ventures but the plants have moved into our landscape as decorative garden plants. Following the development of gardens is just as fascinating as any other area of history and one which may well influence the future development of domestic gardens and wider landscape.

Trevor Nottle is a writer who has followed the history of gardens and gardening in Australia for over twenty years. He has written four books based on a historical perspective of gardening and has lectured on the development of Australian gardening in Australia, New Zealand, the USA and England. As a trustee for Carrick Hill and a consultant on the restoration of gardens he pursues his interests in cultural and social history in projects which are making contributions to wider public understanding of the importance of gardens and garden making.



CLOD BREAKER

FRIDAY, 5 JULY 1991, 8PM

Venue : State Library Lecture Theatre

**Dr Harry Penny: Schooling in the 1920s - Some Valuable Changes**

Dr Penny began his career as a Junior Teacher in 1918. He taught at Alberton, Kimba and Maitland and finally Adelaide Teachers College (1931-1967), where he became Principal in 1948.

He spent time in Thailand as a UNESCO Adviser on teacher education and undertook similar work in Papua New Guinea. In 1971-72 he was Visiting Professor at the University of Florida. He has also undertaken a number of projects on teacher training for aborigines.

His current preoccupation is 'trying to understand life and the world and what schools might best do to help us to make less of a mess of life and the world'.

He recalls the attributes of the schools of the 1920s as 'strict discipline, "thorough" but on the whole narrow teaching and much more drilled memorising than understanding'. Course materials were uniform across the State. He believes the many one teacher schools were 'one of South Australia's finest achievements.'

Gains since then include increased years of schooling and improvements in the quality of learning and teaching, but there's 'a long way to go yet'.

\* \* \* ADVANCE NOTICE \* \* \*

**SEMINAR 2 & 3 AUGUST 1991**

Venue: Old Parliament House

**DEFINING ADELAIDE'S HERITAGE**

This seminar is planned to coincide with Old Parliament House's new display Adelaide in Focus, featuring the Duryea panorama of 1865, and as a timely contribution to the heritage debate, given the work of the current Planning Review. It will run over Friday night and all day Saturday.

The public heritage debate tends to focus on buildings. The seminar will start with Adelaide's history and draw out significant themes and topics in Adelaide's history which contribute to its present character.

Then a speaker or speakers involved with the Planning Review will present the findings of the Review so far.

Each main address will be commented on by an expert commentator and then opened for general discussion. There will be a lengthy concluding forum initiated by brief comments from an expert panel and hopefully followed by lengthy and lively debate from the floor.

The end result should be illumination and clarification of exactly what is the heritage of Adelaide that we should be striving to research, conserve and promote. Cost: to be determined.

**SATURDAY 6 JULY 1991, 7 & 8pm**

**2ND ANNUAL DINNER**

Venue : Da Costa Hall, St Peter's College (See map)

**Speaker : Hon. Mr Justice Zelling**

**The Early History of the Supreme Court of SA**

Preceding the dinner, College Archivist and Society member Robert Fisher will take members on a tour of the College buildings, starting at 7pm.

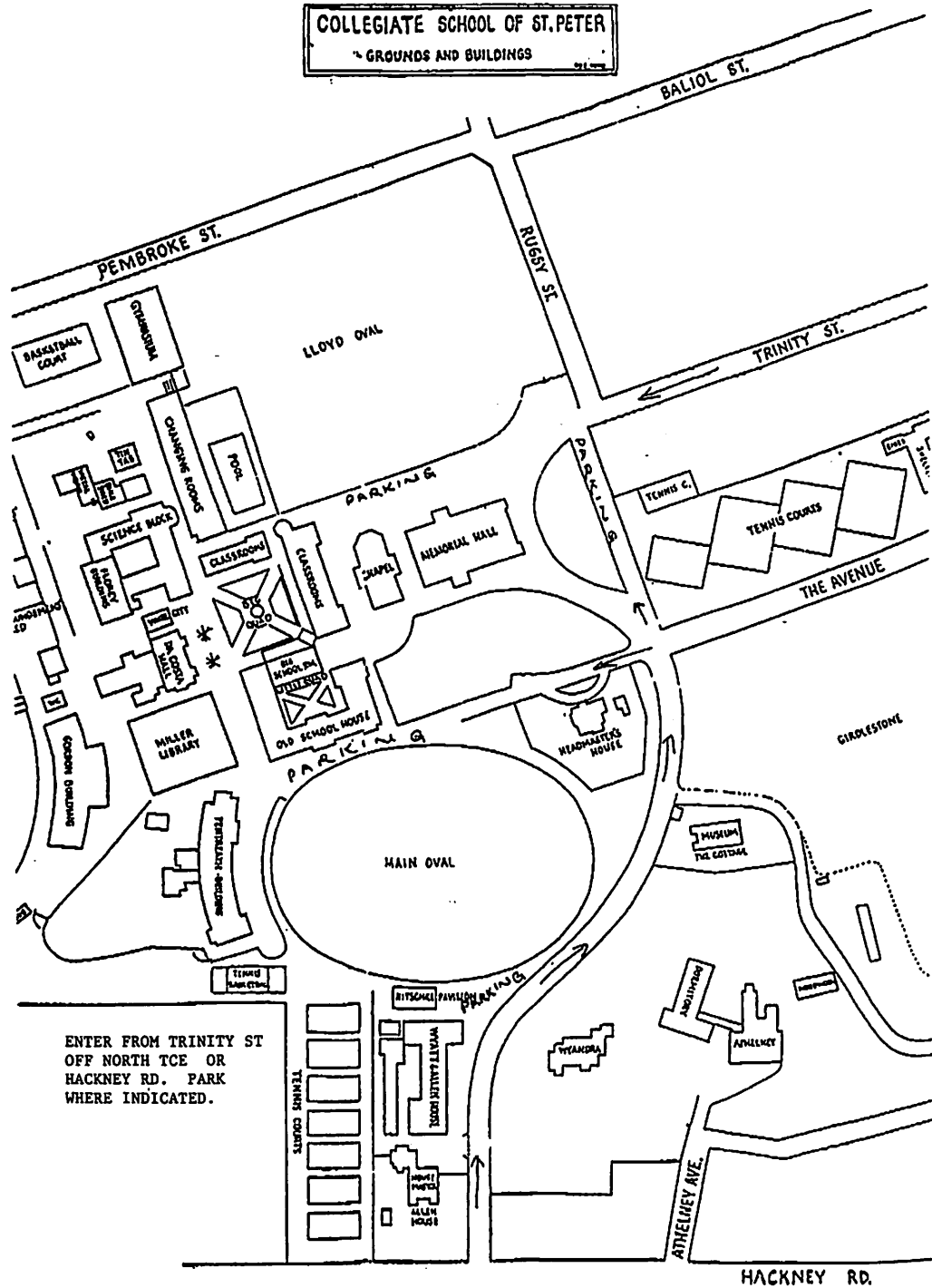
As time and weather allow, the tour will include the School Museum ( an 1842 house) and a laboratory in which Bragg worked.

**WALK at 7pm, DINNER at 8pm**

**3 courses and beverages \$28.00**

**RSVP and deposit of \$10.00/head to Avis Huckel, 9 Sierra Nevada Boulevard, Pasadena 5042 by Friday 28 June.**

**COLLEGIATE SCHOOL OF ST. PETER**  
 GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS



**SOCIETY NEWS**

**Minute Secretary**

A minute secretary is needed for our monthly Council meetings, held on the second Thursday of the month. Please phone Brian Samuels on 223 8807 (w), 49 8104 (h) if you can assist.

**Subscriptions**

Have been flowing in steadily. Have you paid yours?

**Constitution**

As noted in the minutes of the AGM below, the constitutional amendments contained in the January 1991 Newsletter were all approved.

**Publication for Schools**

To coincide with the introduction of a compulsory South Australian unit in the Year 12 Australian History course and the introduction of an Australian Studies course in Year 11, the Society is preparing a volume of articles reprinted from past issues of its Journal. Publication is expected mid-year.

**Will you??**

Will you consider making the Society a beneficiary of your will? To go beyond our present level of operations a paid officer will almost certainly be required. A stronger financial base will make that possible in the years to come.

**Coordination of Historical Societies**

At the 'Owning the Past : Local History in SA' conference held in October last year there was strong support expressed for a State-level organisation to represent historical societies.

As co-sponsors of the Conference with the History Trust of SA, Council has considered how best to establish such a body.

The Victorian model outlined at the conference had regional groupings electing representatives to a State-level body. We believe that such a structure may evolve over time but cannot be implemented immediately.

South Australia differs from Victoria in having many more (55) branches of the National Trust, which already have regional and State level organisational structures. The Trust branches comprise about quarter of the historical organisations in the State.

The remaining 150 or so societies do not have any coordinating mechanism, although some 20 or so are members of the Built Heritage Groups of SA, a loose affiliation of groups established by the Enfield and District Historical Society in 1985.

As a first step towards establishing a more formal structure, we are writing to local history societies (i.e. not all the various special interest groups) seeking their views on the following proposals.

1. That the Council of Historical Society of SA establish a standing subcommittee called the Affiliated Societies Committee. (ASC)
2. That the ASC's role be to
  - (a) to pursue matters of common interest to member organisations
  - (b) to provide a means of communication for member organisations, principally through distribution of a quarterly or six-monthly newsletter.
  - (c) to convene an annual meeting/conference of representatives of member organisations
  - (d) to assist with the formation of regional groupings

Minutes of the Historical Society of South Australia A.G.M., held in the State Library Lecture Theatre, at 7:45 p.m., 5 April 1991.

#### 1. President's Report.

The president reported on the Society's activities for 1990, listing the speakers and their topics and detailing the tours undertaken.

He also reported the success of the inaugural annual dinner, held at Prince Alfred College with Professor Alex Castles as speaker. The president thanked the speakers, the headmaster and staff of P.A.C. for their hospitality, and especially Mr R.M. Gibbs for his efforts in organising the dinner and preparing a taped background on the history of the school. He also thanked all those who had contributed to the success of the year's programme.

Another successful part of the year was the conference, "Owning the Past: Local History in South Australia", held in association with the History Trust of S. A. It had attracted 150 people and was well received. At the conference, the papers from the previous joint conference, "The Politics of Heritage" were available. They were published jointly by the Society and the History Trust and edited by Robert Nicol and Susan Marsden.

The president reported on developments stemming from the 1990 A.G.M. Council had set up a sub-committee to review the Society's constitution. The sub-committee had prepared an amended constitution for presentation to the 1991 A.G.M. Also as a result of the 1990 A.G.M., a special endowment fund has been established to accumulate funds and maximise interest. The fund had become an important source of income for the Society.

The president reported that membership remained healthy, but still falls below the 500 barrier. Late in 1990, Council agreed to increase subscription rates, but the president argued that members continue to receive very good value for money and pointed out that the increase over the last decade had remained well below the inflation rate.

In addition to the conference papers, the Society continued with its annual publications programme, with six issues of the Newsletter and one of the Journal being produced. The president thanked the Journal editor, Dr John Playford, and the Newsletter editor, Dr Ian Harmstorf, for their vital contributions. He also thanked Ms. Vivienne O'Neill who was retiring after many years of typing the Newsletter on a voluntary basis. He further appealed to members interested in taking on this work to come forward.

The president reported on Council's continued support of the work of the Federation of Australian Historical Associations. Maurice Keain had represented the Society at the annual conference held in Brisbane. At the conference, Dr. Nicol was elected senior Vice President of the Federation for a 2 year term. He reported that since his return from overseas, and in consultation with the

president of the R.A.H.S., the other vice-president, as well as the secretary, Dr Allen Roberts, he had been attempting to increase the activities and relevance of the Federation. This had resulted in a valuable February meeting in Adelaide of the Federation's Executive.

The president reported that the Council had continued its usual activities, lobbying State government on historical issues, and promoting interest in South Australian history and heritage.

## 2. Treasurer's Report.

The president reported that a member of the Society, Mrs. Janice Menz, had recently drawn his attention to a number of discrepancies in the audited statement as published in the March Newsletter. He also reported that the auditor, Mr R. H. Kearns, was seriously ill in hospital. In the light of this, he suggested that this item on the agenda be adjourned until the next ordinary meeting to allow the discrepancies to be detailed and sorted out.

Moved - J. Menz.

Seconded - G. Kingston

"That the Treasurer's Report and examination of finances be adjourned until the next meeting."

Carried.

The president said he was certain all members would share his concern for Mr Kearns and would wish him well.

3. The president extended his special thanks to Brian Samuels for taking his place during his absence overseas, to retiring Council member Ms Susan Marsden, to the retiring minutes secretary, Ms Tess Donnellan, to auditor, Mr R. Kearns, to the 1990 Council members, and to those responsible for the excellent suppers which contributed much to the Friday meetings, Enid Ulbrich, Ila Hollands, and Karl Schenschler.

## 4. Constitutional Revision.

The president asked Mr B. Samuels to speak to the proposed changes in the Constitution. He outlined the background to the



# AUSTRALIA'S FOLKLIFE HERITAGE

A publication of the Community History Unit,  
History Trust of South Australia.

The concept of heritage has become very popular in recent years and justifiably so, for if you define it as our 'inheritance from the past', it includes absolutely everything.

That inheritance can be neatly divided into four: the natural environment; the built environment; movable heritage (artefacts); and the sum of the personal heritages each of us carry within us, or in other words, our folklife heritage.

This is the heritage we absorb from the communities and environments we live in, generally learning it orally or by imitation or observation. It is often a heritage we take for granted.

Among other things it can include customs, beliefs, rituals, language, literature, technical skills, craft, play, music, dance, and song. While customs and beliefs often only get passing mention in much writing about Australia's past, the increasing popularity of oral history is gradually remedying that.

Given the scope of the subject this reading list is very selective and some topics are not covered at all (for example, Aboriginal heritage and the heritages of post World War Two immigrants). However, the bibliographies of the books cited will soon lead readers further afield. As this list was prepared for the State Folk Festival it is weighted towards music and song.

Brian Samuels  
Information & Community Liaison Officer  
Community History Unit

### General (Directories)

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Australian Folk Trust   | The Australian Folk Directory 1978/79 - [Titled The National Folk Directory 1978/79, 1979/80, 1981/82 and The Australian Folk Directory Calendar 1983/84 -1986/87]. |
| I Margrett & B Petchell | Folk '86 Resource Directory (Jubilee 150 Education Office, Adelaide 1986) 88pp.   |
| G Seal & R Edwards      | Australian Folk Resources A Select Guide and a Preliminary Bibliography (Australian Folk Trust, Canberra 1988) 67pp.  |

### General

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Australian Folk Trust | Proceedings of the National Folklore Conferences (various titles) 1984-(biennial) |
|-----------------------|---|

Australian Government Publishing Service  
**Folklife: our living heritage** Report of the Committee of Enquiry into Folklife in Australia. (AGPS, Canberra 1987) 306pp.

J Factor  
**Captain Cook Chased a Chook** Children's Folklore in Australia. (Penguin, Ringwood 1988) 290pp

G Seal  
**The Hidden Culture** Folklore in Australian Society (OUP, Melbourne 1989) 180pp.

### Crafts

R Edwards  
**Australian Traditional Bush Crafts** (1975, Rigby, Adelaide 1984) 143pp. [Republished as **Bushcraft 1** in 1988]

\_\_\_\_\_ **Bushcraft 3** (Rams Skull Press, Kuranda 1987) 164pp.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Skills of the Australian Bushman** (Rigby Adelaide, 1979) 166pp. [Republished as **Bushcraft 2** in 1988]

J Isaacs  
**The Gentle Arts** 200 Years of Australian Women's Domestic and Decorative Arts (Lansdowne, Sydney 1987) 224pp.

M Walker  
**Colonial Crafts of Victoria** (Melbourne 1978) 167pp.

**Customs** (see also Holidays and Festivals)

R Brasch  
**How Did It Begin?** Customs and Superstitions and their Romantic Origins. (1965, Fontana/Collins, Sydney 1985) 352pp.

### Food

An Australian Aristologist  
**The Colonial Cookbook** (Hamlyn, Dee Why West 1970) 189pp. [An unacknowledged rearranged republication of Australia's first cook book **The English and Australian Cookery Book** (Sampson Low, Son and Marston, London 1864)]

R Beckett  
**Convicted Tastes** Food in Australia (Allen & Unwin, Sydney 1984) 217pp.

A Gollan  
**The Tradition of Australian Cookery** (ANUP, Canberra 1978) 211pp.

M Symons  
**One Continuous Picnic** A history of eating in Australia. (Duck Press, Adelaide 1982) 278pp.

### Holidays and Festivals

A Butler et al  
**The 1986 All-Australian Calendar Book** A guide to the days of significance in our multicultural Australia. (Hodja, Richmond 1986) 344pp.

K Inglis  
**The Australian Colonists** (MUP, Carlton 1974) 316pp.

M Stapleton & P McDonald  
**Christmas in the Colonies** (David Ell Press in association with the Historic Houses Trust of NSW, Sydney 1981) 128pp.

### Language

J Meredith  
**Learn to talk Old Jack Lang** A Handbook of Australian Rhyming Slang (Kangaroo Press, Kenthurst 1984) 63pp.

W S Ransom (ed)  
**The Australian National Dictionary** A Dictionary of Australianisms on Historical Principles (OUP, Melbourne 1988) 814pp. [An abridged version was published as J Hughes (ed) **Australian Words and their Origins** (OUP, Melbourne 1989) 662pp]

G A Wilkes  
**A Dictionary of Australian Colloquialisms** (2nd edition, SUP, Sydney 1985) 470pp.

### Medicine

B Wannan  
**Folk Medicine** (Hill of Content, Melbourne 1970) 191pp.

**Music & Song** (see also Recreation)

M Breen (ed)  
**Missing in Action** (Verbal Graphics, Kensington, Vic 1987) 232pp [Australian popular music].

R Covell  
**Australia's Music** (Sun Books, Melbourne 1967) 356pp.

R Edwards  
**The Big Book of Australian Folk Song** (Rigby, Adelaide 1976) 507pp. [Includes the 3rd edition of the Index of Australian Folk Songs, which is superseded by the one listed below]

\_\_\_\_\_ **200 Years of Australian Folk Song Index 1788-1988** (Rams Skull Press, Kuranda 1988) 400pp.

W Fahey  
**The Balls of Bob Menzies** Australian Political Songs 1900-1980 (Angus & Robertson, North Ryde 1989) 351pp.

J S Manifold  
**Who Wrote the Ballads?** Notes on Australian folksong. (Australasian Book Society, Sydney 1964) 176pp.

J Meredith & H Anderson  
**Folk Songs of Australia and the men and women who sang them** (Ure Smith, Sydney 1967) 300pp.

J Meredith et al  
**Folk Songs of Australia and the men and women who sang them** volume two. (NSWUP, Kensington 1987) 327pp.

T Radic  
**Songs of Australian Working Life** (Greenhouse Publications, Elwood 1989) 195pp.

\_\_\_\_\_ **A Treasury of Favourite Australian Songs** (Currey O'Neill Ross, South Yarra 1983) 137pp.

E Watson  
**Country Music in Australia** (2nd edition, Angus & Robertson, Kensington 1975) 172pp.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Eric Watson's Country Music in Australia** Volume 2 (Angus & Robertson, Sydney 1983) 246pp.

## National Character

- D Horne      **The Lucky Country** (Penguin, Ringwood 1964) 223pp [Revised edition 1965, 2nd revised edition 1967, fully revised edition 1971]  
\_\_\_\_\_      **The Lucky Country Revisited** (Dent, Melbourne 1987) 235pp.
- B Humphries      **A Nice Night's Entertainment** Sketches and Monologues 1956-1981 (Granada, Sydney 1981) 211pp.
- B Petty      **Petty's Australia Fair** (F W Cheshire, Melbourne 1967)
- I Turner (comp)      **The Australian Dream** A Collection of Anticipations about Australia... (Sun Books, Melbourne 1968) 358pp
- R Ward      **The Australian Legend** (1958, 2nd edition, OUP, Melbourne 1965) 262pp. [Illustrated edition 1978 336pp]

## Recreation

(see also Holidays and Festivals)

- S Andrews      **Take Your Partners** Traditional Dancing in Australia (3rd edition, Hyland House, Melbourne 1979) 208pp.
- R Brasch      **How did sports begin?** (1970, revised edition, Fontana, Sydney 1986) 437pp. [Ch 47 relates to Australia]
- N Challingsworth      **Dancing down the Years** The Romantic Century in Australia (Craftsman Press, Hawthorn 1978) 88pp.
- J A Daly      **Elysian Fields** Sport, Class and Community in Colonial South Australia 1836-1890. (The author, Adelaide 1982) 229pp.

## Work

- P Adam-Smith (comp)      **Folklore of the Australian Railwaymen** (MacMillan, South Melbourne 1969) 308pp.
- V Darroch      **On the Coast** Maritime Industry Life and Language (Lothian, Port Melbourne 1984) 160pp.
- R Lockwood      **Humour Is Their Weapon** Laugh with the Australian Wharfies. (Ellsyd Press, Chippendale 1985) 96pp.

## Some Periodicals

- Australian Children's Folklore Newsletter** 1987 - (biannual)
- Australian Folklore** 1987 - (annual) [Supplemented by annual Bulletins]
- Australian Tradition** 1964-75
- Stringybark & Greenhide** 1979-86

proposal as printed in the Newsletter. Mrs J. Menz suggested that Council consider rewording, at a future time, item 12(b) so that it more accurately reflected current practice. Mrs. J. Menz moved an amendment to item 4(b) substituting 6 months for the 3 months time lapse allowed for renewals. She then spoke to the amendment. Mr. M. Keain spoke against the amendment. There being no further discussion, the amendment was put to the vote and lost. The new constitution as published in Newsletter no. 92 was then put to the members.

Moved - B. Samuels.

Seconded - G. Kingston.

The motion was carried.

## 5. Elections.

The president declared all positions vacant and read out the nominations which had been received by the closing date. They were :

- President      - R. Nicol  
Vice-President - B. Samuels  
Secretary      - M. Keain  
Treasurer      - A. Huckel  
Council      - E. Ulbrich  
                    R. Gibbs  
                    P. Sumerling  
                    P. Payne

H. Angas  
W. Stacy  
P. Howell

There being no more nominations than positions vacant, the president declared those members elected. The members present responded by acclamation and the president extended his thanks on behalf of the new Council.

The president then closed the A.G.M. and introduced the evening's speaker, Mr. David Mulhallen.



---

## DOCUMENTS

---

### ROYAL ADELAIDE EXHIBITION

[Editor's note: This item is taken from the Official Souvenir Programme of the 1957 Exhibition. The Royal Adelaide Exhibition died in 1963. It was later revived as the annual Adelaide International Expo]

In 1875, the six-year-old South Australian Chamber of Manufactures booked the Exchange Room, now the Lady Mayoress' Parlor, of the Adelaide Town Hall for an exhibition.

The Chamber declared its purpose: "To hold an Exhibition where Mechanics, Apprentices and Others might have an opportunity of competing together with specimens of their Inventive Genius and Mechanical Skill."

A few hundred people saw that exhibition in its gaslit room, barely 60 by 27 feet, but a pattern had been set for the future.

Today the Royal Adelaide Exhibition has become a city within a city: with a population of 1,500, with picture theatres, restaurants, a police force, a daily newspaper.

It consumes enough electricity to light a town, carried over fifty miles of wire. To spend five minutes at each stand (the Education Hall is a stand) would take four days at six hours a day - and that would not include an examination of each of the 3,000 handcraft exhibits, or the free concerts and picture shows, the carnival park or a pause at one of the restaurants. The first one-room exhibition would fit comfortably into a corner of the Centennial Hall foyer.

But while the exhibition's face has changed beyond belief in almost every way, its theme has remained evergreen; it still reflects the ever-growing industrial activity of South Australia, and it still provides a show window for the skills of the people.

For more than half a century Exhibitions were held in the old Frome Road building and in the Jubilee Exhibition Building in North Terrace, which now houses a Government department.

The exhibition moved to Wayville in 1936, when the SA Chamber of Manufactures became a partner of the State Government and the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society in building the Centennial Hall. During the eight weeks of that exhibition 720,000 people came to see exhibits from almost every country of the British Commonwealth.

In 1940 the Chamber abandoned an exhibition because of war, for the second time in the series. The five-year cycle was resumed in 1947; a courageous step in the abnormal conditions that then prevailed, but a step well justified by the standard of the exhibits, and the public interest; 840,000 visitors were recorded.

Opening the most recent Exhibition, the Royal Adelaide Exhibition of 1952, the Premier of South Australia (Sir Thomas Playford) told a distinguished audience that no better exhibition had ever been seen in Australia. "It is magnificent," he said.

The Exhibition of 1957 - the eighteenth in the long series - may also deserve that accolade.

It has color and freshness of new techniques and new sciences - but it also has the homely appeal of the first Exhibition.

Alongside pavilions housing television are other pavilions of embroidered tablecloths and inlaid tables and watercolors. Many exhibits, each of itself bigger than the whole of the first exhibition, show the drama of the jet age and atomic age, but there are also typewriting competitions and dancing and weight-lifting, a nightly stage entertainment and an extensive sideshow and fun area.

We think the pioneers surely would be amazed at the way their industries had grown, but they would feel their plans had not been upset.

For here, in this City within a City, is the essence of the skill and resourcefulness of the people of South Australia.

---

## NEWS

---

### *Community History*

*Community History* is the new magazine of the Community History Unit of the History Trust of SA. It replaces *The Local Museum* (1979-90). Its brief is to be of direct practical assistance to members of local and specialist historical organisations in SA.

The first issue appeared in March. This year's issues are featuring papers from last year's well received *Owning the Past* conference. Copies are being sent to all historical societies, museums and public libraries gratis. Individual subscriptions are \$14.00/calendar year, postage included.

### State Conservation Centre

The new name of this body is Artlab Australia.

### Food for Thought Coffee Shop, State Library

A handy place for a light meal before our meetings. Hours are Monday 9.30-5.00, Tuesday 9.30-7.30, Wednesday - Friday 9.30-7.00, Saturdays 11.00-4.00, Sunday - closed.

### Films for Lunch

The S.A. Film & Video Centre presents a varied range of films in the State Library Lecture Theatre. Last year they moved to two screenings, 11.00-12.00 and 12.30-1.30. They are currently including a series of 1930s Australian newsreels in their screenings. Programs are available in the State Library Lending Services.

---

## ACTIVITIES OF KINDRED SOCIETIES

---

### Royal Geographical Society Meetings

June 20 at 7.30 p.m. State Library Lecture Theatre  
In Search of the Elder Expedition - 1990 by John Streich

In 1990 a group of modern day adventurers set out to back track the Elder Expedition of 1891 from Queen Victoria Spring to Skirmish Hill looking for evidence of campsites, blazed trees, and other physical features. John will be using slides, overheads and a video to present the group's findings and to highlight the features of the country they traversed during their adventure.

July 20 at 7 p.m. (Sat) - Annual Dinner  
A Traveller's Tale - Travels in the Himalayas by Judith Barr

Judith Barr, one of Adelaide's most noted travellers, will give the after dinner speech. Judith will talk about the differences between the mountains and the lifestyles in India and Nepal as well as describing how various groups of people react to walking through the majestic Himalayas. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate the Society's 106th birthday and hear an enthralling speaker.

---

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

---

### Some Recent Australian Titles

- G. Bolton *The Oxford History of Australia* Volume 5, 1942-1988
- C. Cameron *The Cameron Diaries* \$49.95
- D. Connell *The Confessions of Clyde Cameron*
- D. Horne *Ideas for a Nation* \$14.99
- J. Isaacs *Pioneer Women of the Bush and Outback* \$39.95
- P. Smith - *A Ton of Spirit* (Interviews with 50 centenarians) \$24.95
- H. Townshend *Baby Boomers* \$19.95

# MIGRATION MUSEUM

The Migration Museum in Kintore Avenue, Adelaide, is about to celebrate its fourth birthday. It is still the only Museum in Australia to collect and preserve the history and rich cultural traditions of the many different people who have come to make South Australia their home. As a division of the History Trust of South Australia, the Museum is funded through the Department for the Arts, and as part of the North Terrace cultural precinct admission is free

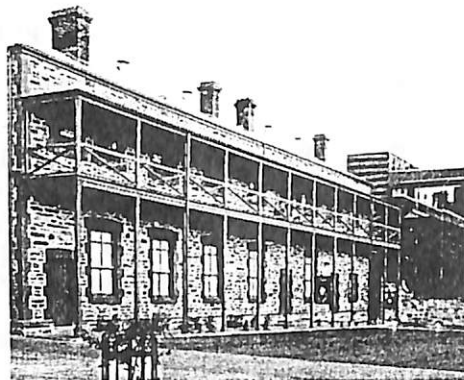
Being a relatively small operation, a total of 14 staff of which 5 are guides, the Museum has developed a participatory approach to decision making involving all staff in evaluation of our programs and future planning. Perhaps this accounts for the level of dedication and enthusiasm from the working group which I have not encountered in other work places.

The exhibition program is a very full one. The Museum produces a major exhibition every year. The production team consisting of myself, two curator researchers, 2 designers and an artisan, meet on a weekly basis to plan, research, design, build and mount exhibitions. We also have a program of continuous changes in the galleries which display the main story of immigration and settlement. Due to conservation concerns any artefacts made of textile or paper are changed every nine months. We are also slowly going through this section and updating and introducing new ways to display ideas and information and interpret artefacts.

We estimate it now takes about eighteen months to mount a major exhibition. So you can imagine we have a number of projects all overlapping at different stages of development. It has become a priority to produce regular changing exhibitions. It was felt by the staff that in order to meet the Museum's brief and to keep up our visitor numbers we should attempt to present the history

and cultural traditions of as many different communities and groups as possible. To this end we now tend to alternate the exhibitions so that one will concentrate on the history of a particular cultural group and the next will aim to develop a theme cross culturally. This enables us to undertake detailed research into numerically large groups like the Italian or Greek communities, but also include a number of other groups like the Hungarian, Chilean or Indian communities.

So far we have mounted seven major inhouse exhibitions since we opened. "Passengers from Hamburg", about 19th century German settlement, was displayed in 1988 to celebrate 150 years since the arrival of the first German settlers. We chose to mount "Il Cammino Continua - The Continuing Journey", which is the history of South Australian Italians, this year because we felt the Italian settlers are the largest numerical group in South Australia. We plan to mount an exhibition about the Greek communities in 1993. In between these we have mounted several cross cultural exhibitions like "Textile Traditions" with material loaned from the Bulgarian, Croatian, Macedonian and Serbian communities. "Chapters in Childhood" and "Strictly Black" also included material and interviews from many different groups like the Estonians, Latvians, Cambodians, Laotians and Maltese groups.



Part of the exhibition program is to bring exhibitions from overseas and interstate. Since we opened we have mounted exhibitions from China, Canada and the U.S.A. We have also had exhibitions from interstate like "Greek Australians: In Their Own Image". In February 1991 the Jewish

Museum in Melbourne will send "Witnesses in the Anteroom to Hell" which is an exhibition of drawings from two inmates from the infamous Theresienstadt Concentration Camp.

One of the important concerns of the Museum is to present all facets of people's history and everyday life; the grim struggle which is so often the immigration experience as well as the celebratory aspects of cultural diversity. We hope that our exhibitions pose questions, show the many contradictions in peoples lives and send visitors a wanting to know more. Our exhibitions now include a section which makes clear to the visitor that what they see here is only one version of the truth, it is our version, what we made of the research. We hope that this will encourage visitors to use the Museum as a key to exploring and identifying their own ideas further.

One of the really fundamental guiding principles of the Museum is to involve as many different people as possible. I will call these people our constituents, for although they may also be visitors to the Museum, I feel that their involvement in the Museum's work means that we are able to also represent their views in displays. Every exhibition we undertake has a research process which involves us going into the communities and consulting as widely as possible. For example, for the Italian exhibition we travelled from Port Pirie to Port Adelaide, from the Riverland to the North Eastern Suburbs. It seems that during every exhibition we undertake each of us makes new contacts, many of whom become lasting friends. It is often a really emotional experience especially when talking with people whose lives have been a constant struggle



But the rewards come when they tell us that they like and approve of what we have done with the research.

In order to involve communities in the Museum's work we have continued to provide the Forum - a community access gallery. Here different groups are invited to tell their own story in their own way. The gallery space is free and curation and design advice available if wanted. Since opening some fifteen groups have used the Forum and presently it is booked until the end of 1991. An element we did not expect has developed where there is a real exchange of skills and information between Museum staff and the particular group mounting the Forum display. A tradition has developed of lively community oriented official openings which we all enjoy.

Perhaps the key phrase that I associate with the Museum is "enjoyment" for whilst it can be pressured, and there is always more work that there is time for, the work is fascinating. New issues arise all the time, intense discussions and constant self questioning and re-evaluation as to how best to portray the real experience of real people and how best to communicate this to our visitors. Finally, I must say that one of the most positive aspects of working at the Migration Museum is the tremendous support and encouragement that we are getting from South Australia's multicultural community.

Viv Szekeres

# MORTLOCK LIBRARY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIANA



## SOUTH AUSTRALIANA SOURCE SHEET NO. 11

### Gardens : a select guide

ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN : past and present. [Adel.: Board of the Botanic Gardens, 1988].  
51p.: ill., map, ports.

Pam 580.744 A228 b + Z (2)

ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDENS, 1857-1907 : South Australia, an official souvenir prepared in connection with the Jubilee celebrations, October 19, 1907. Adel.: Vardon and Sons, 1907. 38 (8) p.: ill., ports.

S 580.74494231 B748 b + Z (5-4P)

ADELAIDE REVIEW, No. 4, July 1984. p.3. "Eccentric Gardens".

Z Per 079.423 A228 d

AUSTRALIAN GARDENER : a monthly journal of floriculture and horticulture for professional, practical and amateur gardeners. (July 1902 - October 1910.)

Z Per 635 b

AUSTRALIAN HOME GARDENER (South Australian Ed.). Adel.: John Carroll Publishing Pty. Ltd. 1961-1970. (continued as Australian Home Gardener until 1972.)

Z Per 635 b

BEAMES, R.O. (Rodney O.). Some historic gardens in South Australia. Adel.: National Trust of South Australia in conjunction with the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide, 1981. [4]p. of col. plates: ill.

S 712.6099423 B366 + Z (2)

GARDENS IN TIME : catalogue of exhibitions. ed. by Robin Eaden. Adel.: Gardens in Time, 1987.

Z 635 G218 b

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOMES AND GARDENS : Adelaide's home magazine, (1923 - 1953.)

Z Per 645 c

TOMKINSON, Edith. The Adelaide establishment : the 1878 diary of a provincial lady of Mount Lofty and Adelaide. Annotated by Mary de Crespigny. Adel.: Mary de Crespigny, 1987.

Z 994.23103 T658 b (2)

WITTUNGA BOTANIC GARDEN. (comp. by the Botanic Gardens, Adel.: Govt. Pr., 1977)

Pam 580 74494213 + Z

### FURTHER REFERENCES -

Pictorial Index - under the headings of : Botanic Gardens; Gardens.

Ephemera Index - under the heading of : Botanic Gardens.

*Permission is given to reproduce in full with acknowledgement to the Mortlock Library.*



1/91

## COMMUNITY HISTORY CALENDAR

Extracts from the Calendar produced by the Community History Unit of the History Trust.

### MAY

- 9th to July Migration Museum "Work it out: A cultural journey through time for children".
- 10th-31 July Old Parliament House The ALP Centenary 1891-1991
- 17th-20th Cornish Festival. Kadina-Moonta-Wallaroo. Mrs Sue Woodcorde, Secretary/Organiser, ph.(088) 212096 A/H (088) 239438 before 9.30pm.
- 22nd  
11.00-12.00 SA Film & Video Centre. "A Year To Remember 1938", "The Angel that Stands by Me". State Library  
12.30-1.30 Theatre, Kintore Avenue.
- 22nd  
7.45 SA Genealogy & Heraldry Soc. Speaker: Col. I.S. Swinnerton "Tracing your British Army Ancestors" Society Library, 201 Unley Road, Unley.
- 25th-26th \* National Trust of SA. Antique Fair, Beaumont House \*Tentative.
- 29th  
11.00-12.00 & SA Film & Video Centre. "A Year to Remember 1939" State Library Theatre, Kintore Avenue.  
12.30-1.30

### JUNE

- 17th Burnside Historical Society "Rural Settlement in the Adelaide Hills" . Speaker: Gordon Young.
- 23rd Burnside Historical Society. Visits to Ferguson Park and also to Chiverton (now St. Peter's Girls School).
- 29th to end of August Old Parliament House Vietnam Veterans Speak Out in Speakers Corner.