



# Relative Thoughts

Volume 27 No. 3

July 2023

## Quarterly Journal of the Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.



A few photos of the Vintage Doll and Toy Collection that Tara and I attended during History Month. **Christine Keen.**



## CONTACT US

### Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.

Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.

The Secretary

PO Box 1078

Christies Beach North

South Australia 5165

Email—[fleurpengloupinginc@gmail.com](mailto:fleurpengloupinginc@gmail.com)

Website—<http://fleurieufamilyhistory.org>

**President**—Sharon Green

Phone: 0419 760 496

Email: [shaz01@optusnet.com.au](mailto:shaz01@optusnet.com.au)

**Committee Member** —Peter Tuck

Phone: 08 8322 7904

Email: [petertu@ozemail.com.au](mailto:petertu@ozemail.com.au)

**Secretary**— Ros Dunstall

Phone: 0419 851 761

Email: [fleurpengloupinginc@gmail.com](mailto:fleurpengloupinginc@gmail.com)

**Committee Member** —Joy Nieass

Phone: 0434 466 182

Email: [joy.nieass@gmail.com](mailto:joy.nieass@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**—Jenny Chapman

Phone: 0407 600 947

Email: [chappos@adam.com.au](mailto:chappos@adam.com.au)

**Committee Member** —Ian Blatchford

Phone: 0448 801 302

Email: [ianbl@bigpond.com](mailto:ianbl@bigpond.com)

**Webmaster**—Kerry Edwards

Phone: 0409 841 839

Email: [kerrymedwards@gmail.com](mailto:kerrymedwards@gmail.com)

**Patron** —Graham Jaunay

**Non Committee**

**Speaker Coordinator** —Elizabeth Grocke

Phone: 0421 102 868

Email: [philiz@esc.net.au](mailto:philiz@esc.net.au)

**Journal Editor**—Christine Keen

Phone: 0448 890 281

Email: [ckeen7@bigpond.com](mailto:ckeen7@bigpond.com)

**Membership Coordinator** —Nola Clisby

Phone: 08 8382 0245

Email: [arno29@bigpond.net.au](mailto:arno29@bigpond.net.au)

**Resource Room Bookings**

Chris Grivell

Phone: 0409 670 183

**Committee Member** —Jim Usher

Phone: 08 8382 5271

Email: [tejausher@bigpond.com](mailto:tejausher@bigpond.com)

**PPFHG Mailing List—members only**

Ros Dunstall

Email: [daisygir1.1212@gmail.com](mailto:daisygir1.1212@gmail.com)

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Welcome to our July edition of *Relative Thoughts*. We've had a busy last three months, and a lot of organisation has been done on the run when colds and flu have reared their ugly heads. I would personally like to thank all the Executive and Resource Room committee members and members in general who have stepped up, stepped in and just got on with whatever has been needed to be done to run the meetings, and keep everything running relatively smoothly. There are many of you so I won't name names but you all know who you are, and please accept my grateful thanks.

What have we been doing the last three months: we have had a fabulous array of speakers, kicking off in April with the fabulous Paddy O'Toole who spoke to us on Willunga's Mounted Police Force, 'Crime, Crims and Constables'. It was a fascinating look into the early days of our local Police Force, and how sometimes the lines between each could become a little blurred!

The month of May saw us celebrate History Month, which is always busy, not only with what we have on within the group, but also attending other events. I hope you all got out and were able to attend some of the other interesting openings and programs that were on.

Our speaker for History Month (which sadly I missed due to a cold) was the brilliant Tim Johnson from Treenet. He spoke to us about the role that trees play in the community, and the work Treenet is involved in, in re-establishing the 'Avenues of Honour' which have had some of their trees depleted over the years. The feedback from you, the members, was that it was a fantastic presentation. We also had our second year of running a workshop in History Month that was open to the public. This was even more successful as far as attendances than last year, attracting a full house of attendees. Some participants had not started their DNA journey and others who had done their tests and just wanted to be directed a little in where to go from the results, and some who were contemplating another type of DNA test to what they had already done.

June's meeting was on a cold wet wintry Saturday afternoon, and our speaker Rob Kirk had us entertained and mesmerised as he took on the persona of his three times great Grand-father Dr John Woodforde. 'Dr John Woodforde' stepped us through his journal on Colonel William Light's survey party and gave us glimpses of how Adelaide society shunned Colonel Light and his partner, Maria Gandy. Many thanks go to Elizabeth in arranging such a varied program of speakers, and we've got some more fabulous speakers yet to come.

The members' workshops on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month have been well attended and a variety of subjects looked at. April we had a bye as Easter fell that week. May we had a look at 'What's new in Ancestry and Ancestry DNA', and June's subject was 'What's your Family TreeMaker Problem'. Here we stepped our way through some issues some members were having, and then covered some of the tree maintenance suggestions.

Other group activities are the Special Interest Groups, if you haven't attended one of these I would highly recommend a visit to one of these. There is a great choice and varied formats, from the Aussie Group, DNA Group, Computer Group and the UK/US Group. They are a great

opportunity to get to know some of the members in a smaller group setting. The Computer Group meets in the hall, but all the other Special Interest groups meet in a member's home. Please see the inside cover and contact a convenor for more information, or just a general chat to see what they are all about.

If you haven't stepped foot into the Resource Room on the first or third Wednesday afternoon of the month, do yourself a favour and get along there and see just what is available. The work the Resource Room committee is doing is fantastic, almost finished doing a complete overhaul of the cupboards and working hard on revamping the catalogue. Great job Ian and the team.

We have also had some sad news in the last couple of months, member Florence Stopps passed away, and also former member and Resource Room manager Joan Jones. Our deepest sympathy and condolences to both their families. Tributes to both Florence and Joan further in the Journal.

Well we've had the Winter Solstice so that means we are on our way to summer! Yay! But until the warmer weather arrives, stay warm, stay dry, and stay safe. This time of year provides us with an excuse to bunker down and really get some research done, or tidy up those trees and see what information is missing and needs chasing. Hoping to catch up with you all at the next group activity, see you soon.

Cheers,  
**Sharon Green**

## **VALE JOAN JONES**



Vale Joan Jones — 9 July 1940 to 6 June 2023

We'd like to pay our respects to former member Joan Jones who was our Resource Room manager for some time prior to Anne Dow taking over.

Joan and husband Keith were members from 2003 until 2020. They both contributed greatly to our group and we all have fond memories of them. During Keith's four years as President, Joan would appear at the end of our committee meetings held in their home with supper and join us for a chat.

They also held the UK group in their home at Morphett Vale. The Resource Room was Joan's passion and she spent many hours there before handing over the responsibilities to Anne.

Joan and Keith had been married for 61 years. She was the proud mother and mother-in-law of Darryl and Anne, Julie and Heather, grandmother (mama) to four and great-grandmother to three.

Joan passed peacefully with her beloved dog Bryn at her side. We have sent our deepest condolences and sympathy to Keith and the rest of the family. Her contribution to our group in the past is greatly appreciated. Thank you to Joy who attended the funeral on our behalf, and conveyed our sympathy in person to the family.

**Sharon Green**

## VALE FLORENCE STOPPS



Vale Florence Eileen Stopps—14 Jan 1937 to 26 May 2023

It is with much sadness that we remember our dear member Florence. Florence joined our group originally in 2010 and after a brief hiatus re-joined and continued her membership until her passing.

Florence was born in Bedfordshire, England just prior to World War 2. She married her husband Dennis Stopps in the same parish she was born in 1957. At the age of 18 years Florence almost drowned, this some of us were aware of as we'd helped Florence find the newspaper article, but what we learned at her funeral was that husband Dennis was one of her rescuers. Alas it was not a lifetime of Mills and Boon fate, but they remained best friends until Dennis passed in 2018.

Florence was proud mother to Andrew and Mark, and grandmother to Alexander and Caitlin. Florence over the years threw herself into anything that came her way, whether it be her real estate career or taking the minutes of the Flinders Palliative Care Unit for some 20 years. She was also heavily involved with the Onkaparinga Band when the boys were younger and playing. She was, as we will always remember, the ultimate Pocket Rocket.

We will always remember Florence as being an active member of our group when her health allowed it and for her amazing poetry which she loved to bring us. In spite of this Florence always hoped for a more physical connection to the Fleurieu group, and Ros and Mary Ann were able to give her the news in the weeks before she passed that they were a confirmed DNA match and could identify the common ancestors, truly amazing news for her to know she had had family in the area for some time.

We are including a poem that Florence wrote on the morning she passed as she was concerned she hadn't got to say goodbye to everyone. Florence was in charge of her own destiny and will be remembered in this way. Our condolences and greatest sympathy is extended to her family. Rest in peace lovely lady.

‘Farewell’

This is a farewell, not a goodbye  
That I send to my loved ones everywhere  
With thanks for all your love and friendship  
And your loving care.

As you wear my scarves and bracelets  
Be comforted that I am now at peace  
And free from pain  
And that one day we will all be together again.

I have treasured all our memories  
And send all my love to you  
Take care and love each other  
As I look down from the skies a blue.

Florence Stopps  
May 26 2023

## ***"TOGETHER"***

When the hill gets high and the road too long,  
Your thoughts may begin to wane.  
This is the time to stop and think,  
Where can I find my confidence again.

Just look around and find a mate,  
Who may be thinking the same as you.  
And together you will seek another way:  
You will find more strength when there are two.

Encourage your mate to find the will,  
In return they will do the same.  
Together you will conquer a longer road,  
And the hill will be easier to tame.

Success is measured by little steps:  
Celebrate each one every day.  
But take a rest when the needs arise:  
We all proceed in a different way.

*Florence Stopps  
Copyright 2018*

*Editor's Note: This is the last poem Florence submitted for inclusion in our journal. I am honoured to have been able to share so many of her often moving poems with our members.*

## DAD's FAMILY by Cheryl Williss

I wrote a substantial history on the maternal side of my family in my book, *Then Tina Met Will*. Below is a short history of my dad's family.

When the South Australian Company's barque *Duke of York* reached the calm waters of Kangaroo Island's Nepean Bay on 27 July 1836 after a five-month journey from England, Captain Robert Morgan decided that his youngest passenger, two-year-old Elizabeth Beare, should have the honour of being the first to step onto the beach. His second mate, Robert Russell, was ordered to take a boat and land the little girl. Fellow crew member, my three times great-grandfather Israel Mazey, helped row the boat ashore and witnessed the landing of the first official settler on South Australian territory. Despite claims to the contrary in later years, Israel publicly backed this story. After all, he said, he was the one who passed the child across to the second mate, so he should know.

Twenty-year-old Israel had joined the ship at the Isle of Wight, signing on as both sailor and passenger. Clearly Israel was looking not only for adventure but opportunity. A brand new colony was opening up in the distant province of South Australia.

Six weeks after arriving at Nepean Bay the *Duke of York* moved on. But when it called into Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land, Israel jumped ship and hid in the bush until it left port, after which he made his way back to Kangaroo Island where for a few more years he worked out his contract with the South Australian Company. In 1839 he left the island, and in an open boat with five other men, he sailed up the Gulf St Vincent to the muddy mosquito-infested flats of Port Adelaide, or 'Port Misery' as it was known at the time.

In 1843 Israel married 16-year-old Hannah Woolman (anglicised from Wohlman). Hannah had arrived with her parents and siblings on the *Navarino* in November 1837. Her father Henry was from Heligoland, a tiny archipelago in the North Sea. In about 1820, Henry moved to England where he earned his living as a sailmaker. Here in 1823 he married Margaret Uln.

For a while Israel worked as a blacksmith, spent a little time at the Victorian Goldfields, and tried his hand at farming at Blumberg (now Birdwood). But eventually he decided he was best at fishing and took his family back to Port Adelaide.

Israel has the honour of being the first portrait of the group in the Old Colonists poster, photographs taken at the Banquet of 1851. Hannah appears on the women's poster.



*Photos courtesy of the State Library of South Australia*

In 1850 my two times great-grandmother Sarah was born. In 1869 Sarah married William Hone, a storekeeper at Overland Corner in the Riverland. Here Sarah gave birth to my great-grandmother Edith. In later life Sarah and William lived at Parkside, where they died in 1933 within three weeks of each other.

In 1896 Edith married butcher William Selway and moved to Gawler where two years later my grandmother Edna was born. Edith died in 1955, six years after the death of her husband.

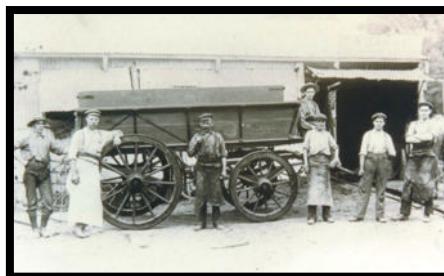
On 22 January 1846, the ship *George Washington* berthed at Port Adelaide. Its refugee passengers, including my three times great-grandparents Heinrich (Henry) and Maria Wege, and their daughter Maria Louise, had escaped religious and political persecution in their native Mecklenburg, Germany.

The Mecklenburgers intended to form a separate settlement of their own like other German settlers before them, but failed to do so. The Wege family chose to live in Hahndorf, where Henry and his sons found work in the building trade. By 1847 Henry had enough savings to purchase several blocks of land. In the early 1850s Henry sold his land to schoolteacher Traugott Boehm. On one of the blocks, situated on a corner of the main street, Boehm established the Hahndorf Academy, to provide the village's children with both a German and English education. The Academy grew to be an important educational institution in the colony.

In 1853, Henry moved to Blumberg and established a milling business. But within just a few years he was in severe financial trouble. By the end of 1856 Maria was dead and Henry was bankrupt and the business was up for sale. In 1867 the mill burnt down, but the new owners rebuilt and it eventually became a successful operation. The replacement mill now stands as part of the Birdwood Motor Museum.

My two times great-grandfather Robert Marsh was a schoolteacher and a Methodist lay preacher. He had arrived in South Australia from Somerset one year after the Wege family. In 1852 Robert married Henry and Maria's daughter Mary Louise (as she was now known). The couple settled in Gawler where Mary Louise focussed her attention on social work and, in 1889, became an active member of the local branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. In 1894 Mary Louise signed the petition that gave all South Australian women the right to vote and stand for parliament.

Robert and Mary Louise's son, my great-grandfather Hermann Ludwig began his career in Gawler as a wheelwright and carpenter.



*Marsh wagon works, Gawler. Photo courtesy of Flickr*

Hermann was the only child of Robert and Mary Louise to be given a German name and the story goes that he was named by his grandfather Henry Wege who was visiting at the time. In 1889 Hermann wed Esther Riggs whose musician father, William had founded Riggs's Brass Band, well known in the area. Hermann himself was a talented musician. He was also ambidextrous. As a Sunday school teacher he would impress his young flock by writing on the blackboard with both hands at the same time. He was a prolific contributor to the local newspaper, *Bunyip*, often using the pen name 'Poet Low-rate'. Both Hermann and Esther also signed the 1894 women's suffrage petition. In December 1914, the half-German Hermann Ludwig Marsh was elected to the Gawler Council. In December 1918 he was elected Mayor.



*Hermann Ludwig Marsh, mayor of Gawler 1918-1919. Photo courtesy of Flickr*

*Orchestral work found him the wielder of the violin bow, and at a call he would take up the clarionet and supply the reedy tone to balance a part. He became an adjudicator at Band concerts; and as Choirmaster wrote lots of parts for instrument accompaniment. In literary work he had a facile pen, but his forte was poetry and he made many contributions to our columns under the pen name of "Poet Low-rate" ... [He] was appointed to the Mayoral office through the last year of the Great War and afterwards. A memorable fact stands out that on the night the armistice was declared, he instantly adjourned the meeting and assembling on the Town Hall steps in Murray street the Council sang the Doxology and God Save the King. This was about the Town's first intimation of the glorious news. The Gawler Institute had a loyalist in the deceased, who for some years occupied the Presidential chair.*

*Bunyip, Friday 17 April 1942*

My grandfather, Clarence Albert Marsh (Clarrie), was born in Gawler on 5 November 1896. When Clarrie left school he learnt the carpentry trade from his father, later taking over the business. In 1918 Clarrie enlisted with the Australian Imperial Force, but the Great War would soon be over and he did not serve overseas.

On 14 March 1923, Clarrie wed Edna Selway. The couple moved to nearby Willaston where they bought a cottage and an adjacent block of land. Faithful Methodists, both Clarrie and Edna sang in their church choir, in Willaston and later in Whyalla.

When Clarrie's parents retired to country New South Wales he continued his father's carpentry business, but the Great Depression of the 1930s forced him to close down and seek work elsewhere. In 1939 Clarrie took his family west to Whyalla.

Until the late 1930s Whyalla was just another small country town. But the *BHP Indenture Act* of 1937 soon saw a rapid increase in population when the mining company Broken Hill Proprietary Ltd (BHP) was given an area of land on which to construct a blast furnace and a harbour. Further negotiations with the South Australian government led to a commitment for the construction of a pipeline to pump water to the town from Morgan on the River Murray. Just as the construction of the harbour and blast furnace was under way, world tensions were rising with the imminent outbreak of World War Two. The Royal Australian Navy asked BHP if they would build patrol ships and so the construction of shipyards began.

Clarrie not only put his carpentry skills to good use at the shipyards – with his own hands he built an impressive brick home for his family.

My dad, Graham William Marsh, was the second of Clarrie and Edna's four children. He was born at Willaston on 29 March 1927. Although his grades were well above the average, Dad had to leave school at the age of 14 and went to work in BHP's Whyalla office. By the time he met my mum in his late-teens, Dad was still working for BHP and studying accounting part-time.

*Addendum (with special thanks to Jan Lokan):*

After speaking at the Cornish History Seminar during May's Kernewek Lowender, I received a copy of the book *More than Miners*, a special collection of essays from previous seminars edited by Philip Payton and our own Jan Lokan. This informative book was launched at the seminar by Copper Coast Council Mayor Roslyn Talbot and Michael Bollen from Wakefield Press.

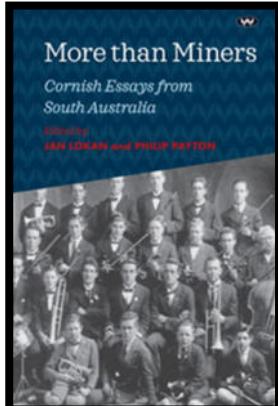
I was immediately drawn to Jan's essay 'One False Move: The Bravery of Leon Goldsworthy GC, DSC, GM'. Leon Goldsworthy was the Royal Australian Navy's most decorated officer in World War Two. I soon learned that Leon's mother was 'Eva Riggs .... Born in Gawler South ....'

Riggs? Gawler? I resolved to do my homework. The following day I was able to email Jan, letting her know that Leon was my second cousin once removed. Eva was my grandfather Clarrie's cousin. Jan soon replied with some family gossip, which I have since passed on to Eva's first cousin once removed, my Aunt Bette, Grandpa Clarrie's sole surviving child.

I was especially keen to learn of Jan's connection to Leon. As it turns out, whereas I am connected on the Riggs side, Leon was Jan's third cousin once removed on the Goldsworthy side. In any case, we were now able to provide each other with information and connections hitherto unknown.

**Cheryl Williss**

*Photo courtesy of Wakefield Press*

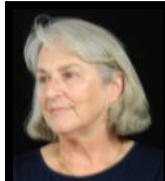


## LOOK WHAT YOU MISSED!!! by Elizabeth Grocke



**April 2023, Dr Paddy O'Toole, Willunga's Mounted Police: Constables and Criminals.** Paddy is the Chair, Willunga branch of the National Trust SA. Willunga Police Station was established in 1839 (in its first building), and was located on the Government Reserve.

Around 50 mounted police officers served between



1839-1930 at this location, generally with 1-3 officers at any one time. The Police Station moved to Main Street in 1930. Paddy shared some stories about some of the officers stationed at Willunga between 1839-1855. The Police Station and Courthouse, built in 1855, was handed over for use to the Irish Immigrant Women for their lodgings for six months. Two notable stories were about William Whitters—believed to be one of the first officers to ride camels on patrol; and Norman Baker 'the Boy Bushranger'. And it was an informative and interesting talk that had us all enthralled.



**May 2023, Tim Johnson, Treenet—Trees, Communities, and Avenues of Honour.** Trees can influence many areas of urban and community life. They can benefit and unite individuals, families, communities, and generations, or they can cause division and destruction. Establishing and sustaining these large, long-lived organisms in cities and towns presents challenges, but they deliver broad human and environmental services. Whether they are beneficial or problematic depends on how they are provided in the landscape and how well they are maintained. An independent, non-profit organisation, Treenet, was founded in 1997 to work to better integrate trees into our cities and towns to maximise their benefit and value. Treenet's focus on research and education supports urban designers, landscape architects, civil engineers, arborists and allied professions to provide trees that better serve communities. Treenet's Avenues of Honour project has documented over 600 avenues, stands and individual trees planted as living memorials to commemorate Australia's military service personnel. These trees have special community significance, but many have been lost with the passage of time. By working with communities to document commemorative avenues it is hoped that those that have been lost might one day be replaced, to ensure the fallen Diggers aren't forgotten and to maintain links across the generations.

**June 2023, Rob Kirk as "Dr John Woodforde" his 3x great grandfather.** A fascinating and authoritative account of the 'founding' and survey of South Australia, from the landing at Rapid Bay of the South Australian Company ship *Rapid* in 1836 to the formation of Adelaide, as recounted through the diaries of not only Dr John Woodforde, colonial surgeon, but also Dr Mayo and Col William Light. The early establishment of the colony and city are also portrayed by several artists of the day, as well as the early newspaper reports, which depicted the life of the early colonists, including their encounter and interaction with the local Aboriginal tribes.



# THE HOW AND WHY OF MY DAD'S OBITUARY

## by Kerry Edwards

I recently organised an Obituary for my father and thought I'd share what I learnt.

My father was John James Edwards and he died on 8 July 2022. Many years before and over years, I asked him about his life. I spent a long time writing his story which eventually reached eight pages. I added this to the notes in my *Family Tree Maker* records so it's included in any relevant books or reports. But after he died I wanted to do something more.

In mid-April Cheryl Williss spent a lot of time reviewing this story to make it more professional. My dad wasn't a member of our family history group and it was too long for our journal.

So I looked into an Obituary in *The Advertiser* newspaper. This is done via My Tributes who are part of News Corp Australia and based in Brisbane. They organise birth, death, marriage, obituaries etc in 15+ newspapers across Australia. The arrangement for an Obituary is that I nominate the newspaper and size of the article and they book the advertising space. Options are full page, half page and quarter page which of course determines the cost. I chose half a page which was \$2,690. A full page wasn't quite double the cost and a quarter page wasn't quite half the cost. This includes a journalist ringing me for an interview and writing the story for me to proof read. I had sent in my eight pages with two photos so she had a lot to get her started. Also the article and photos permanently online and a framed copy of the printed version sent to me by post.

It took a lot of work and time but I'm very happy with the outcome. As My Tributes have the copyright I can't reproduce the Obituary here but I can direct you to it online at <https://www.mytributes.com.au/obituaries/john-james-edwards/4566696/>.



**Kerry Edwards**

## KERNEWEK LOWENDER by Jan Lokan

As many of you will know, some Fleurieu group members attended the recent Kernewek Lowender on SA's Copper Coast, held from 15 to 21 May. Both Kath Fisher and Jan Lokan were on the committee that planned the Cornish History Seminar day, on the topic of 'The Cornish in Public Life'. These seminars, on a different theme each time, focus on contributions to Australian life made by people from Cornwall or of Cornish descent. Both Cheryl Williss and Shirley Frost participated in the preparation of papers that were featured in the 2023 program. Shirley's husband Ray presented their joint paper on 'Len Treloar, an unlikely lawyer' and Cheryl presented the keynote address on her research into 'Phyllis Somerville: Author, *Not only in Stone*'.

During hours spent reading various notes, letters, papers and so on about Phyllis in the State Library in Adelaide, Cheryl came across a hand-written original song, both words and music, that Phyllis had composed for submission to a song competition many years ago, which had not otherwise been published. Given that our SA Cornish Association choir was already at the festival, three of us who would be at the seminar agreed to sing it to embellish Cheryl's paper – and duly did so. The three are, from left, Noel Carthew, Jan Lokan and Margaret Johnson, with Cheryl standing at the lectern on the right. (Out of the photo to the left was choir pianist Margaret Seyfang, who had brought the choir's keyboard from Adelaide as there is no piano in the venue where the seminar was held.)

All in all the seminar was a very good day, for which the Cornish Association received many compliments.



Jan Lokan

## **“WHAT THE BARMAID KNEW” by Helen Smith**

On Mother's Day, Sunday 14 May I drove to Strathalbyn for a history walk up High Street.

On the way we were entertained by nine people, four with guitars and all dressed in period costumes. They talked and sang about their town and their 'second' main street known for where the antique shops can be found.

We started at the Ken Blake Memorial Statue. Kenny was a motorcyclist born in Strathalbyn. He was killed in what he had planned to be his last race on the Isle of Man on 9 June 1981.

Then we walked across the road to the Town Hall to hear tales of 'rinking' known today as roller skating.

At Gilbert's Motor Museum a volunteer explained how the garage had started and then became a museum. The former owners have since moved to Mount Barker to become Gilberts Toyota dealership. Here a Penny Farthing bicycle was on display. The bicycle races were successfully held in the town for many years before going to Port Adelaide. This idea came from Tasmania, which still holds this event.

As we neared the end of our walk we saw St Andrews Uniting Church, the oldest remaining Presbyterian church building in South Australia. It was originally used as a school. In 1869 a decision was made to add a bell tower and in 1895 a suggestion made that the tower needed a clock. The four clock faces were purchased from Mr J M Wendt of Adelaide.

It was only fitting that our two hour walk finished here as all money raised was for the restoration of the church. Inside the Church we saw the beautiful stained glass windows and we were then offered a tea or coffee and a nice selection of food.

**Helen Smith**



FPFHG Facebook

Group



View of Witton Bluff on Facebook and websites

## A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE by Colin Routley

I was searching for information on my great-great uncle, William Young, and came across a web blog referencing this newspaper article which I have since verified in Trove. I knew that at that time the family was living at Barkstead near the Victorian country town of Daylesford.

### A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE

A lad named William Young, aged 8 years, met with a most singular accident at Barkstead a day or two ago, narrowly escaping with his life. It appears that Young and another boy named Finch were playing outside the engine-house of Messrs Anderson Bros.<sup>1</sup> saw-mills, close to the shafting, which protrudes outside the building, and to which is attached a belt-wheel for driving a turning-lathe. Young incautiously placed his hands on the revolving shafting, and before he knew where he was, his coat was caught, and he himself revolved around the shafting with lightning rapidity, and was only released when every stitch of clothing was completely peeled off him. Fortunately, he was enabled to get up and run home, dreadfully frightened, but as naked as the day he was born, barring his boots. The men were astonished to see the little fellow running home in a state of nudity, but soon ascertained the cause. On examining him it was found he had received injury to his arm and also his head; but, on taking him to the hospital, they were found not to be of very serious consequence. It is expected that in a few days he will be able to return to his home.

*Geelong Advertiser*, Thursday 15 April 1880

Colin Routley

## BOOK REVIEWS

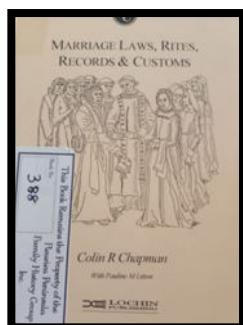
*Marriage Laws, Rites, Records & Customs* by Colin R Chapman

In this very detailed book the author looks at marriage through the centuries in England up till modern times. It discussed the reason for marriage and shows the role the Christian church played in marriage by taxing those involved unless you were a pauper, the calling of banns, and the licensing which continued till after the reign of Queen Victoria when the influence of the church decreased. The involvement of the church meant paper copies were kept which obviously was a great advantage. Other religions and their practices are also discussed.

Some customs developed for weddings over the centuries still exist today. For example the carrying of a horseshoe shape was an Egyptian symbol of Isis which attracts goodwill and keeps the home safe from evil.

Divorce is also discussed in some detail.

Lynette Gibson

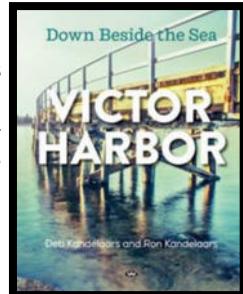


*Down Beside the Sea* VICTOR HARBOR by Deb and Ron Kandelaars.

The history of Victor Harbor is told in this book from very early days to 2019 and covers such a wide range of subjects from the rivers, parks, pubs, historical buildings, industry, agriculture and community. Local people tell their stories throughout the book which has beautiful photos of the area and also old photos from the past.

A delightful book which is easy reading with short chapters.

**Lynette Gibson**



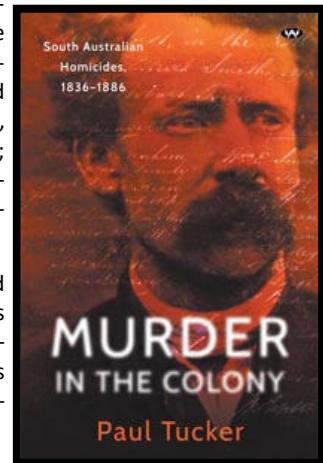
*Murder in the Colony: South Australian Homicides 1836-1886* by Paul Tucker

Paul Tucker's *Murder in the Colony*, published by Wakefield Press in 2022, is a 600-page anthology of 391 murder cases brought before the South Australian court in the first 50 years of colonial settlement.

When the Province of South Australia was first established, it was meant to represent the utopian ideals envisioned by England's colonisation commissioners. But within six months of Governor Hindmarsh's arrival the state's first murder was recorded.

Besides detailing each case, the author has provided a number of tables reporting various statistics; for example, the relationship between victim and accused. For the family historian, there are four indexes: the names of people and whether they were the accused or suspect, victim, police, doctor or other; place of crime (the Fleurieu is included); cause of death; and cases of domestic violence. I was surprised to find a murder committed on one of my own ancestor's properties. Fortunately he wasn't involved!

Although this book is a fascinating account of all recorded murder trials to 1886, be warned. At times the reading is disturbing. It is also a stark reminder of the position of women in society, especially the poor, as well as the implications of bringing English laws to an already inhabited land of peoples with their own laws and customs.



**Cheryl Williss**

# SWING RIOTS TO VAN DIEMANS LAND

Credit to compiler, Geoffrey Sharman

SHIPS: *Eliza*, *Proteus* and others.

Swing Rioters to Van Dieman's Land (now Tasmania)

Geoffrey Sharman has an interest in the SWING RIOTERS.

About 475 of whom, convicted for arson, machine breaking, receiving, or rioting, were transported to Van Dieman's Land (VDL, now Tasmania) or New South Wales from 18 countries of South East England, 1831-33. The VDL contingent of 329 arrived in Hobart on the *Eliza*: 224 males, one female, Mary, and *Proteus*: 98 males in 1831, *Gilmore*: *Lord William Bentinck* (one male each) *York* (two males in 1832) and *Lotus* (two males in 1833).

Three swing rioters, first transported to NSW per *Eleanor*, eventually became temporary or permanent Tasmanians, bringing the total number of known VDL, ex-Swing Rioters to 332.

## THE SWING RIOTS: SOUTHEAST ENGLAND 1830-1831

What has been called the greatest wave of protest machine breaking in English history occurred in southeast England in the winter of 1830-31.

The mythical leader of the Swing rioters was Captain Swing, who supposedly took his name from the 'swing' moving part of the flail used to thrash the grain from harvested cereal crops.

The 1830's breakers, rioters and arsonists (properly collectively referred to as Swing rioters) were farm labourers and rural artisans. Most were ploughmen traditionally employed as thrashers during the winter months, but that winter work was now increasingly being done by horse or steam powered thrashing machines. A number of factors, including a succession of poor harvests followed by severe winters, were responsible for the rural depression of the 1830's but mechanisation was blamed. Following a series of arson incidents, machine breaking began in Kent in late August 1830, spread to East Sussex and then rapidly to a score or so of South-East England Countries. The machinery destroyed included chaff cutters, draining ploughs and other implements for the abridgement of agricultural labour as well as thrashing machines. In Buckinghamshire and Norfolk papermaking machines were also broken.

King William IV had little sympathy for the Swing movement and was alarmed by the revolutionary movement on the European Continent and the agitation in England so supported Tory opposition to the Parliament Reform Act (the Reform Bill) of 1831-32. A series of trials by Special Commission added to the Swing rioters tried in County Assizes and about 475 men and one woman were transported to New South Wales or Van Dieman's Land convicted of acts of arson, machine breaking, rioting and receiving money during the riots. 'The Reform Bill' finally became law in June 1832 and, although it gave nothing but hope in the way of electoral reform to the agricultural labourers, it did precede an attitude that paved the way for eventual free pardons for the Swing rioters. In early February 1835, six months after declaration in England, 220 of the VDL seven year sentence men received free pardons. Further free

or conditional pardons in respect of 14-year men and lifers followed in May, 1837.

About 10% of the pardoned or sentence expired machine breakers, most of whom had wives and families, returned to England, but a great number stayed in Australia. Some had family members sent from England and a few who went home, shortly re-embarked for Australia, bringing family with them. An estimated 15 to 20% of the total transported, Swing rioters became cofounders of present day Australian families.

**Article submitted by Kay Griffin**

## NEW RESOURCES

Number	GMD	Category	Title	Author
1203	Book	Sth. Aust	At the helm of history	Richard Klienig
1204	Book	Sth. Aust	Reflections. The story of the Morchard District	Committee
1205	Book	Family History	From Kent to South Australia	Frank J. Clegg- gett
1206	Book	Sth. Aust	Cummins, its people and history	
1207	Book	Reference	Family history comes to life	Peter Cuffley
1208	Book	Fleurieu	Old Torrensvale and Hay Flat	Margaret Morgan
1209	Book	Fleurieu	Down beside the seaside – Victor Harbor	D. & R. Kandelaars
1210	Book	Family History	The Radford Family, in the land of liberty – South Australia	Barbara H. Jamieson
1211	Book	Sth. Aust	A pioneer walk – through the churchyard of St Marys, South Road	Rev'd John Davies
1212	Book	Fleurieu	The story of Victor Harbor	A.A. Strempel & J. C. Tolley
1213	Book	Sth. Aust	South Australia, whats in a name	Rodney Cockburn
1214	Book	Reference	Unit badges of the Royal Australian Air Force	Richard J Cluley
1215	Book	Family History	Put some flesh onto the bones	Ron Dearing
1216	Book	Sth. Aust	Paddle Steamer "Adelaide"	Helen Coulson
1217	Book	Sth. Aust	Great Central State. The foundation of the Northern Territory	Jack Cross
1218	Book	Sth. Aust	Germans. Travellers, Settlers and descendants in SA	Peter Monteath, ed.

Number	GMD	Category	Title	Author
1219	Book	Sth. Aust	Echunga, 1839-1939	Jack Whimpress
1220	Book	Sth. Aust	No need to be afraid	Desmond O'Connor
1221	Book	Sth. Aust	Pekina – century and beyond	W. Czemezkyj. Ed.
1222	Book	Sth. Aust	Murder in the Colony	Paul Tucker
1223	Book	Family History	Passage of no Return – Manners and Relations	Gladys E. Manners
1224	Book	England & Wales	The Book of Stithians	Stithians Parish History Group
1225	Book	Fleurieu	The Kangarilla-Clarendon Cemetery Historical Records	E. E. Burnard
1226	Book	England & Wales	Stithians Family II	Edward Martin
1227	Book	Family History	Calnan Family Descendant Register	Max Taylor
1228	Book	Scotland	Croft History, Isle of North Uist, vol 1	Bill Lawson
1229	Book	Scotland	Croft History, Isle of North Uist, vol 2	Bill Lawson
1230	Book	Scotland	HMS "Hercules". Scottish Migrant Ship, 1853	W. B. Clarke
1231	Book	Scotland	Index to the Marriages in Northern Uist, 1820-1855	Bill Lawson
1233	Book	South Australia	Full Circle-South Australia's Unknown Pioneer	Enid Sutton
1234	Book	South Australia	No Place Like Pekina	McKinnon
1235	Book	Fleurieu	Sand on the Roof-Wellington on Murray	Robert Turner
1236	Book	Family History	A History of the Families Langford, Rawlings, Gentle	Frank J. Cleggett
1240	Book	Family History	Rebbeck Family – England to Australia, 1856	Beverley

## READY MADE SPEECHES—WEDDINGS

Further to my previous article from this book, I'd like to share another. As a reminder *The Book of Ready-Made Speeches Revised Edition* by Charles Hindley was printed in London in 1906. My last re-typed article was for an Annual Meeting of an Anglers' Club. This one is for the father of the groom on his daughter's wedding day.

Toast: 'Health and Prosperity to the Newly Married Couple, Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_"

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends and Neighbours, I rise on this happy occasion - this festive, domestic, and matrimonial occasion, I may say - to propose to you a toast, and one in drinking and honouring. It's a happy toast, and this is a happy occasion. And I may say, ladies and gentlemen, and with truth, that I feel this is one of the happiest days of my life. I've been doing a little bit of charity, and you all know that it is written that 'charity shall cover a multitude of sins.' Ladies and gentlemen, I have been giving away something - a gem - a gem of the first order. I have this day given a young man a good, virtuous, handsome, loveable English maiden for a wife. A greater prize in life's lottery one man cannot present to another. And may they, the newly married couple, be happy, is the fervent wish of the elderly gentleman now addressing you. I love a wedding, and during the now somewhat lengthened progress of this pilgrim - and I've had my fair share of bunions, I can tell you - ah! you may laugh - of course you may - everybody may and ought to laugh on a wedding day ; but, as I just observed, I love a wedding, and I have been to couples here around me. Now make up your minds to get married. 'Pop the question,' out with it! and if any of you are in want of a father, I'm your man! Young ladies, look at me - scan me well - then I will ask, in the words of the immortal Samuel Pickwick, 'How should you like to have another father?' I am in the market, and very much at the service of any young lady or gentleman bound for the Church. Now while the young couples are making up their minds to name 'the day - the happy, happy day,' and considering where they shall buy the ring, I will give you the toast that I rose for the purpose of proposing, for 'tis

The toast - the toast - the toasts' the thing

To make your hands tingle, and the glasses ring.

Now, my kind friends, you will all join with me in drinking 'Health, Long Life, and Happiness to Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_,' the newly married couple; and may their path through life be strewn with roses and posies! May they have joys to their harts' content. 'The Health of Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_,' and may they have

Quiet days and long life.

**Kerry Edwards**

## READY MADE SPEECHES—BIRTHDAYS

Further to my previous articles from this book, I'd like to share another. As a reminder *The Book of Ready-Made Speeches Revised Edition* by Charles Hindley was printed in London in 1906. My last re-typed articles were for an Annual Meeting of an Anglers' Club and a Wedding. This one is for birthdays.

In proposing 'Many Happy Returns of the Day' by a friend.

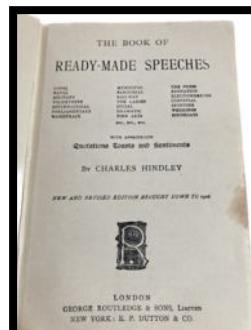
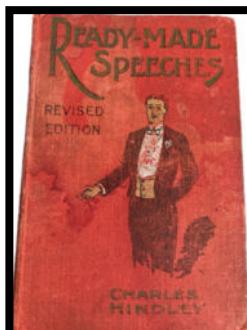
Ladies and Gentlemen, it is well known to all present that we have met for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the birthday of our friend Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, and I have been called upon to say a few words on the occasion. Shall I say I could but wish it had fallen to the lot of someone more able than myself? No! I will not, because that's an old tale, and one that nobody ever believes; so being requested to say a few words, I will at once proceed, for I like a birthday, and I am always—

Pleased to look forward, pleased to look behind,  
And count each birthday with a grateful mind.

And it is a source of great pleasure for me to be present on the anniversary of our friend's natal day. It is not the first time, and I trust it will not be the last time, that I shall have the honour of being at the celebration of the event. And I see many happy smiling faces around me that have been in the habit of meeting here before. Our worthy friend is so well known to you all that little is left for me to say on his behalf; I wish, in all sincerity, that he may have many, very many, happy returns of the day, and I know that you all participate in that wish. I know that you all have the greatest possible respect for his welfare; and when I see, year after year, the old familiar faces assembled for the purpose of congratulating him, I feel convinced that you still continue to hold him as your friend. It is, perhaps, one of the pleasantest things in this life to meet one another's friends and acquaintances so often at the same board, as it shows that there is a great respect and friendship on each side; I am sure that we have had a pleasant evening, and one that will bear the morning's reflections. May our friend Mr. \_\_\_\_ continue in the enjoyment of good health, together with his wife and family, for many years to come; and, in conclusion, you will please join me, bumper in hand, in wishing him "many happy returns of the day," and -

Happy are we met,  
Happy have we been,  
Happy may we part,  
And happy meet again.

**Kerry Edwards**



## EARLY EDUCATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Until 1847 there were only private schools in South Australia and at this time a Board of Education was formed and teachers were required to be licensed. Schools were either held in private homes or in various other buildings. By 1852 the government took over the promoting of education and assisted by granting aid towards the building of schools and the paying of teachers. Even so parents were expected to contribute to both the building and also the payment of teachers.

Churches played their part in the promotion of education by providing accommodation and the engaging of teachers.

An instance where the community rallied to provide education for their young ones was at Normanville where Oscar Herbert donated the land, Robert Norman who had a brick kiln in the area donated all the bricks- over half a million and tradesmen gave their labour while business people gave cash.

School attendance could be quite erratic especially in the rural areas as the children had to do their bit to ensure the survival of the family. I remember reading of a family in the Yankalilla area where each child over six had to milk the number of cows according to their age before they walked miles to school along a dirt track.

The Education Act of 1875 decreed that Public Schools would be under the control of the Council of Education and attendance at school compulsory. Free education came into being near the end of 1891.

Most teachers were usually housed in the home of one of their pupils and conditions were hard with lack of privacy due to the houses not having any spare rooms.

**Source.** *To Find the Way. Yankalilla and District. 1836-1986* by R F Williams

**Lynette Gibson**

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS



All meetings are held at 1.15pm, Uniting Church Hall, 23 William Road, Christies Beach. If you have a suggestion for a suitable speaker please contact Elizabeth Grocke with details by phone on 0421 102 868 or by email on [philiz@esc.net.au](mailto:philiz@esc.net.au).

15 July—Richard Venus, Overland Telegraph

19 August—Victoria Purman, Author

16 September—Max Anderson, Author

21 October—Ian Smith, For the Love of the Country

18 November—AGM; Tony Elliot, The Somerton Beach Body Mystery

**Up to date details of speakers can be found on the webpage at <http://fleurieufamilyhistory.org>**

## RESOURCE ROOM OPENING TIMES



The Resource Room is available to members for research. During the opening time before the Saturday general meetings, Resource Room volunteers will not be available to give assistance with 'Family Research', but books, newsletters and magazines can be borrowed from 12.00pm to 1.15pm, and during the afternoon tea break.

Other opening times for the Resource Room will be the 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons during February to October, and the 1st Wednesday in November, from 1.00pm—3.30pm.

Members wishing to access *findmypast* during resource room openings, are now requested to contact Chris Grivell and book a specific time. Chris's contact details may be found at the front of the journal.

Opening dates for this quarter are: 5 July, 15 July, 19 July, 2 August, 16 August, 19 August, 6 September, 16 September, 20 September, 4 October, 18 October, 21 October, 1 November, 16 November, 18 November (returns only).

## EVENING COMPUTER GROUP



The evening computer class is held in the Uniting Church Hall, 23 William Street, Christies Beach. A \$5.00 donation is requested to help cover the cost of the hire of the hall. The Group meet monthly on the second Monday night of the month at 7.30pm.

The program consists of a presentation on a specific topic followed by a question and answer session. Bring a tagged laptop from home but if you cannot you will be seated with someone who has a similar operating system to you.

Contact Heather Boyce on [haboyce@adam.com.au](mailto:haboyce@adam.com.au) if you are interested.

### Pete Flynn

33 Justin Crescent, Christies Downs SA 5164  
Phone 0493 408 711

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## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

We would like to welcome new member:

**William Cocks**

**Nola Clisby**

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## VOLUNTEER RESEARCH

Research can be undertaken for anyone seeking information on ancestors in our local area. Please forward requests to Volunteer Research, PO Box 1078, Christies Beach North SA 5165.

## EDITOR'S NOTE by Christine Keen



Compiling this journal feels a little bittersweet—being the penultimate edition I will be putting together before handing over the editing reins to another capable member of our group.

It saddens me to include articles about the passing of our valued members, and in particular, in this edition, the passing of Florence Stopps. It has been a great pleasure to include many of her poems over the last nine years, and I for one will miss her contributions and her smiling face at our meetings.

Thank you to all the members who have contributed to this edition. It certainly is another variety of interesting articles.

I look forward to receiving all your articles and contributions for the final edition of 2023, and my final edition as Journal Editor. Contributions will need to be received by 16 September.

**Christine Keen**

## WHEN & WHERE

### MEETINGS

The monthly Meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month from January—October at 1.15pm, Uniting Church Hall, 23 William Street, Christies Beach. The Resource Room is open from 12.00pm each meeting day.

Annual General Meeting is held on the 3rd Saturday in November commencing at 1.30pm. Committee elections are held at this time.

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**Aussie Interest Group**—meets at 1.00pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month. For information contact Ros Dunstall, phone 0419 851 761.

**United Kingdom and USA Interest Group**—usually meets at 7.30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month but may vary. For information contact Sharon Green, phone 0419 760 496.

**Evening Computer Group**—meets at 7.30pm on the 2nd Monday of each month. For information contact Heather Boyce, email *haboyce@adam.com.au*.

**DNA Evening Group**—usually meets at 7.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month but may vary. For information contact Sharon Green, phone 0419 760 496.

Up to date details of special group meetings can be found on the webpage at <http://fleurieufamilyhistory.org>

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

#### **Membership with Electronic Journal:**

Family (2 people) - \$35.00

Single—\$30.00

#### **Membership with Printed Journal:**

Family (2 people) - \$42.50

Single—\$37.50

A \$5.00 joining fee applies to all new and lapsed memberships.

Fees should be paid to the Treasurer prior to the November AGM each year.

**PUBLISHING** This journal is issued quarterly to members. Items for inclusion should be submitted to the Editor by March, June, September and December. FPFHG shall not be held responsible for statements made or opinions expressed by the authors of submitted materials, or shall FPFHG vouch for the accuracy of any genealogical data, offers, services or goods that appear herein. The Editor reserves the right to edit any articles proffered for publication.

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