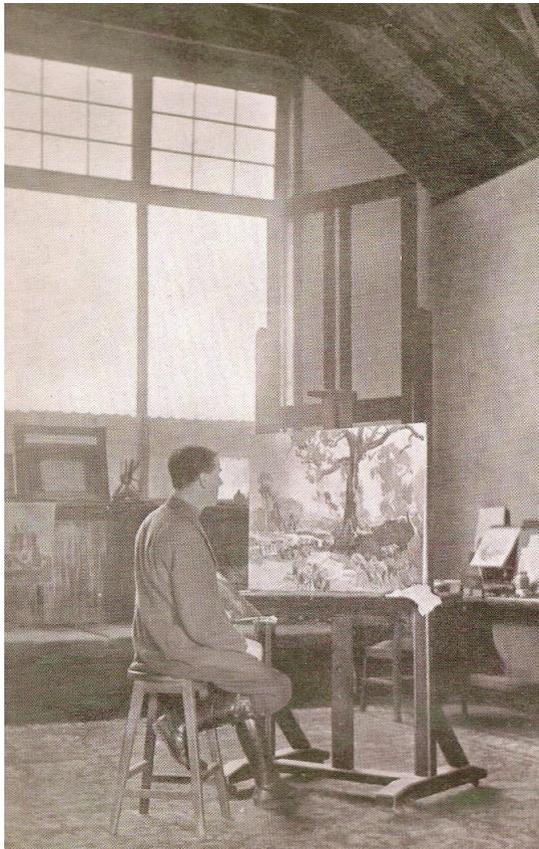


Burnside Historical Society Inc.

NEWSLETTER - December 2008

Volume 28, No. 4



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This is the last issue of our quarterly Newsletter for 2008 and thanks must go to all those who have helped in so many ways in its production and distribution. We have had the Editorial Committee which oversees the choice of articles and helps proof the work. We have had the many members who have contributed as reporters, summarizing the meetings and events. And then we have had the sorters and co-ordinators, delivering to the local distributors who, in turn, have delivered to members' letter boxes in their areas. The co-ordinators have also posted some of the Newsletters to other history groups and to our members who live outside the City.

One of our local distributors, Margaret Rohde, has had to resign for health reasons. Thank you for your support, Margaret and we wish you well. Colin Harris has agreed to take over Margaret's former area. Many of our distributors like to get out and walk locally and quite enjoy the incidental task of dropping Newsletters into letterboxes four times a year.

Our next Newsletter will be in March 2009. Perhaps over the Christmas break you might like to write up a short article about events and people in the City of Burnside as you remember them. Or do some research about a topic and write that up. We are always looking for articles relevant to our City. History does not need to reside solely in the past. It is being written as we live.

Wishing you all a happy and safe Christmas, and good times in the year ahead.

Elaine Smyth (Editor)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“Clinkers 4 a 1d., licorice blocks 4 a 1d., or would you like to see the halfpenny tray? My goodness, you are lucky – you have threepence to spend!” Memories, just memories, and now we hear words like billions, trillions and even quadrillions being bandied about like pieces of paper. How does one come to terms with such numbers? I have found a way! Walk along Cator Street or any street which has cedar trees planted on both sides and try to avoid the yellow seed balls – a quite impossible feat as they are there in their millions plus. Life changes so much and so quickly in so few years in our lifetimes, thus making our memories very precious.

This past quarter of the year has been another happy one, as we enjoyed a talk by Alan Campbell on Hans Heysen followed by a delightful tour of *The Cedars* and lunch at the German Bakery in Hahndorf. The October meeting was chaired by Colin Harris (Vice President) and I thank him for that, and you were able to go home feeling wiser about the Wyatt Benevolent Institution as told by Dr Carol Fort. Our November meeting was the last for the year and was followed by a special Christmas supper. The excellent address by John Mannion concluded a great year.

Remember to take a trip to Beaumont House to see the garden seat with its special plaque. And consider touring the Adelaide Oval on Monday 19th January at 5.15 pm followed by dinner at a nearby Hotel.

I wish you all a happy and healthy festive season and look forward to your company in 2009.

The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious. It is the fundamental emotion which stands at the cradle of true art and true science. Whoever does not know it and can no longer marvel is as good as dead and the eyes are dimmed.

Albert Einstein (1879 – 1955)

Isabel Williams OAM, JP

Welcome to New Member

Recently **Colin Litchfield** joined the Society. A warm welcome goes out to him and we look forward to meeting him at future activities. We hope you will enjoy your association with our friendly group.

TOUR OF ADELAIDE OVAL

Monday 19 January 2009

Meet at 5.15 pm at the Southern Gates

Cost of Tour: \$6.50

Enjoy the beauty and surrounding views of the world-famous Oval

Climb the steps into the heritage-listed Score Board which operates now as it did when built

Afterwards:

Optional light dinner at nearby Queen's Head Hotel at own expense

Deposit for dinner: \$3.50

RSVP – Monday 5th January, 2009

Bookings and payment to Shirley Sumerling, 8364 3505

Please remember to always check the program in each Newsletter as there are occasions, due to circumstances beyond our control, when dates and/or speakers change from those printed in an earlier issue – and additional events may also be included.

Monday 16 February, 8 pm

John Banks Shepherdson – first school master, farmer and Special Magistrate

Speaker: Eric Spehr

John Banks Shepherdson was born in Yorkshire in 1809, the son of a farm labourer. In 1836 George Fife Angus gave John a two year contract as Director of Schools for South Australia. John arrived in the Colony with his family in October 1837. At the conclusion of the contract, he farmed for several years near Nairne. In 1849 John took up the post of Clerk to the Bench of Magistrates at Mount Barker. In 1861 he was made a Magistrate and dispatched to the raw new mining town of Wallaroo where he lived out the remainder of his life. John Shepherdson was the speaker's great, great, grandfather.

Monday 16 March, 8 pm

Teaching in the 1950s and 60s.

Speaker: Glen Woodward

A presentation of stories from Glen and some of his fellow teachers about teaching and living in different communities in South Australia. Glen went out as a Junior Teacher, straight from Year 11, in 1947 before entering Adelaide Teachers College in 1948. He then taught in a variety of country areas.

Monday 20 April, 7.45 pm – AGM (Note early start)

The Diplomatic Gardener. Richard Schomburgk: explorer and Botanic Gardens Director.

Speaker: Dr Pauline Payne

As a young man Richard Schomburgk survived the challenges of a nineteenth century expedition of exploration to South America, before

emigrating from Berlin to begin a new life in colonial South Australia. After establishing a farm and vineyard near Gawler, he was appointed as second Director of Adelaide Botanic Gardens. During his long career as Director, he established the Moreton Bay Fig Walk, the first Victoria Lily House, the old Palm House, the Museum of Economic Botany and the planting of Botanic Park. He became one of the greatest introducers of plants (both ornamental and utilitarian) in Australia.

Monday 18 May, 8 pm

Jewellery.

Speaker: Brian Sarre

Brian worked with his father in Claude Sarre Jewellers before taking over the management of the business. He later sold the business and retired in 1997. There were some interesting experiences in the jewellery trade and Brian will relate several of the whims and stories of the people who bought the jewellery.



UNVEILING OF PLAQUE AT BEAUMONT HOUSE

Sunday 7 September 2008

An interesting afternoon was enjoyed by members of the BHS and their friends at this event. The plaque unveiling ceremony took place at Beaumont House for the wrought iron garden seat donated by our Society to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Sir Samuel Davenport's residency.

Chris Hughes (a Beaumont House committee member) and our President Isabel Williams were suitably attired in period costume for the event. Champagne, nibbles and afternoon tea were provided after the ceremony. This was followed by an inspection of Beaumont House, with tours being led by the Beaumont House guides. Photographs were taken of the event, which was not affected by light rain during the ceremony.

Shirley Sumerling

AN ANTARCTIC AFFAIR

Monday 18 August 2008

An appreciative audience of members and friends gathered to hear Emma McEwin talk about the relationship of her great grand-parents, Douglas and Paquita Mawson, during their engagement years. Unlike most engagements, theirs was marked by separation, anxiety and the near-death of Douglas in the course of his 1911-14 Antarctic expedition.

Emma, the first great grandchild of Douglas and Paquita, based the talk on her recently released book *An Antarctic Affair* (East Street Publications, Adelaide, 2008), and such was the interest generated that she did a brisk trade in selling copies of the book at the end of her talk.

Douglas died long before Emma was born, but Emma was able to describe in her talk early childhood memories of Paquita, a tall, formidable woman, wide of form and always dressed in black. Nine years younger than Mawson, but in many ways a good match for him, Paquita was the sixth of seven children born to Henrietta and Guillaume Delprat. When Douglas and Paquita took their first tentative steps towards what was to become a lifelong partnership, Guillaume Delprat was General Manager of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company (BHP) and the Broken Hill Mine was, at that stage, the largest silver mine in the world.

Mawson himself had been brought to Australia as a two year old by his British parents Margaret and Robert and raised in Sydney. In 1902, and at the age of only 19, he became one of the youngest students to graduate from the University of Sydney, with a degree in engineering. He continued his studies, completing a science degree three years later with a major in geology, encouraged in the latter by Professor TW Edgeworth David. Mawson later worked with David on Shackleton's British Antarctic Expedition of 1907-09, Mawson's first encounter with the frozen expanses of the Antarctic.

When Douglas Mawson asked Guillaume Delprat for approval to marry Paquita, Delprat counselled against an engagement before the 1911-14 expedition, fearing that the separation would prove an immense emotional strain for both of them. Mawson's view that they should make the commitment before his departure eventually prevailed, although the tortured nature of the long-distance correspondence between them – published for the first time in 2000 as *This Everlasting Silence: the Love Letters of Paquita Delprat and Douglas Mawson* – suggests that Guillaume Delprat was the wiser of the two.

Unsurprisingly, they married just over a month after Mawson's return, in Melbourne on 31 March 1914. It was a union which was to last for 44 years, ended only by Mawson's death in 1958.

Colin Harris PSM

HANS HEYSEN – CONSERVATIONIST AND HISTORIAN

Monday 15 September 2008

Who has an electorate, tunnel and walking trail named after him? Sir Hans Heysen. Our speaker, Alan Campbell, who studied art, became an admirer of Hans Heysen's varied style and has been Curator for 14 years of the painter's studio and home, *The Cedars*, on the edge of Hahndorf. Alan brought a depth of knowledge of the artist and the information enhanced the recent visit to *The Cedars* enjoyed by some Burnside Historical Society members.

Through Alan's descriptions we saw Heysen as an historian, capturing the history of his German and Silesian background on canvas. Heysen depicted the 19th century regional way of life both in detail and in volume of work. After Heysen came to South Australia he later studied art in Paris and Italy (from 1899 for four years) and was tutored by James Ashton and Gill at The Norwood Art School (over 4 years). He did many charcoal sketches and painted what was around him – the way of life of his times. Heysen recorded the German tradition – bake ovens, smokehouses and orchard produce, such as plums and pears. Sowing by hand, harvesting, horse teams ploughing and scarifying and timber hauling were depicted in great detail. He displayed wonderful skills in sketching a variety of farm animals, such as pigs.

Heysen married in 1904 and from 1908 lived in Hahndorf, a replica Silesian farming village. He became known through exhibitions in Melbourne, that of 1912 being opened by Dame Nellie Melba. His immediate success enabled him to purchase *The Cedars* where he moved in 1912. During his life Heysen became friends with celebrities and other artists, like Lindsay, who painted lovely sketches at Heysen's property. Heysen and his wife Selma (Sallie) had five daughters, three sons and one adopted daughter. Three, all males, are still living. His daughter Nora, who died in 2003, was also a fine artist.

Heysen was immensely versatile. He illustrated in different media and covered a multitude of subjects, not just gum trees. He is well known as a landscape artist,

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particularly of the Flinders Ranges and the Adelaide Hills, although by his own admission he probably spent too long painting similar subjects. Heysen did produce fine paintings of other subjects, including, seascapes, animals, fruits and flowers. He was a master of still life, particularly in oils with a variety of flowers. An interesting story emerged about the ballerina Anna Pavlova wanting to buy a still life painting of zinnias and autumn fruits which was above the fireplace at *The Cedars* when she visited. However, Heysen had painted it for his wife and refused to sell. The dancer returned a similar work he painted for her – wanting only the work that had captivated her at *The Cedars*!

Heysen's studio, the oldest existing art studio in Australia and still in the Heysen family, has been opened to the public for 16 years. The home remains largely as it was during Heysen's lifetime. Consideration has been given to opening it for accommodation and summer schools. Parts of the property have been retained for conservation purposes, as Heysen would have wished, and 5-600 year old gum trees, which he loved to paint, remain to the present.

Surprisingly, *The Cedars* seems to be a well-kept secret to South Australians, with most visitors coming from New South Wales and Victoria. Alan answered a variety of questions, at length, and informed us that there was to be a touring national exhibition of 215 pieces of Hans Heysen's work from 14th November 2008 to 8th February 2009 at the Art Gallery of South Australia. Check out: www.artgallery@sa.gov.au. A Nora Heysen touring exhibition will commence at Carrick Hill early in 2009. Our members were impressed that he spoke at length and without notes, even with a voice which was far from 100% on the night!

Meredith Ide



The Studio, 1921. Photo A Wilkinson

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TOUR OF *THE CEDARS*, HAHNDORF

23 September 2008

Quote - "Sixty per cent of visitors to *The Cedars* come from interstate".

Question - Why do South Australians adopt the famous artist Sir Hans Heysen but avoid a pilgrimage to his studio and home full of paintings?

A group of our members visited the Heysen home and then lunched in Hahndorf.

Hans Heysen (1877-1968) with his wife Selma (Sallie), moved into a small rented cottage near Hahndorf in 1908 (just 100 years ago) and in 1912 bought *The Cedars* where they raised eight children.

They modified their house to a chalet style, designed the garden and acquired woodland to build up the present 150 acres. Heysen's studio was built on the hill where he produced tens of thousands of artworks. It is now fixed in time and has some of his masterful charcoal drawings a medium he favoured. In the house, Heysen's pastels, still life, European scenes, Flinders Ranges and the well known gum trees in varied lights on his property, are on display. Over the fireplace is a still life of zinnias and fruit which the ballet dancer Anna Pavlova tried to purchase with an open cheque. Many famous visitors to SA were entertained at *The Cedars*.

The house and grounds now need restoration, so the Heysen family is planning to establish a Trust to maintain the property for future generations to appreciate Heysen's art and heritage.

Glen Woodward

An **Exhibition of Hans Heysen** opened at the Art Gallery of South Australia on 14 November, 2008. Don't miss this opportunity to see his works, some of which have not been exhibited before.

KEEPING THE TRUST – THE WYATT BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

Monday 20 October 2008

With our usual assembly increased in number by visitors from the Campbelltown Historical Society, Dr. Carol Fort from Flinders University's History Department presented a fascinating picture of William Wyatt, the consummate 'European Man of Science, out and about in his Empire.'

With reference to her book, *Keeping the Trust* and with the aid of a powerpoint presentation, Dr. Ford eschewed a lengthy description of the 'Scheme', as Wyatt called it, and concentrated on the intriguing life of the man. The Burnside connection, with his home *Kurralta*, was soon introduced, along with details of both the public and private person.

Carol took as her opening insight Wyatt's address to the Mechanics Institute in 1842 on the *Phenomenon of Living Creature*, a scholarly treatise which could very well foreshadow Darwinism, but which held hints of humour and the 'gentle suavity of manner' referred to at his death.

The sheer size of Wyatt's commitment to his new home, astounded the audience - a medical man (ship's surgeon on his trip from Plymouth), who, with his brother-in-law James Nash, formed the Medical Board and was its Secretary for 40 years, an Inspector of Schools, Protector of local Indigenous people, founding member of Trinity Church on North Terrace and St. Matthews on Kensington Road and active in the establishment of St. Peters College and Pulteney Grammar School. He was active in the RSPCA, the Acclimatisation Society, which led to the establishment of the Adelaide Zoo, but was thwarted in his aspirations to manage the Botanic Gardens. Of particular disappointment to others was the fact that Wyatt's death in 1886 prevented him from enjoying the exhibition of 1890, an event symbolic of his love and regard for Adelaide.

Dr. Ford concluded by outlining the nature of the Trust, which annually distributes \$1 million to aid individuals "above the labouring class" who may be in poor or reduced circumstances. Question time raised the source of Wyatt's wealth, which Carol suspects came partly from his father and from Wyatt's own astute investments; his wife's relationship with George Hamilton, and the fate of his wayward son, Willy, who died in violent and unsavoury circumstances.

Altogether, an evening of information, entertainment and, at times, high drama.

Peter Davies

CHANGING PLACES. CHANGING LIVES
17th State History Conference

2 – 3 August 2008

On Saturday 2 August I attended the State History Conference which was held at *Sunnybrae Farm*, Regency Park. The keynote address, *History, change and the future*, was presented by Mark Peel, a professor of history in the School of Historical Studies at Monash University. His method of using drama to teach history to his students was inspiring and, I'm sure, enjoyed by those students. One example he gave was the way that he taught the history of the American Civil War. Students are divided into the different factions and groups involved in that war, such as abolitionists and secessionists, are set the task of negotiating in an attempt to avoid the war. Over the course of the years that students have been set this task, only once was there a positive outcome: mostly the war would have been started earlier and probably with even greater division between the groups.

Mark is presently working on a book on the relationships between charity and social workers and their clients in Melbourne, London and three American cities. His use of drama in this book was explained and two of the attendees at the conference dramatised one of the case studies being presented in the book. The discussion after the presentation was very positive and I'm sure everybody present went on to the next session feeling that a very good start had been made to their day.

My next session was in the Cheese Room and was meant to begin with a talk about the South Australian weather service over the past 150 years, but this had to be cancelled and we started the session with *The Borrow collection and the built environment*. This paper was presented by Heidi Ing who is currently employed with the Flinders University Library and who has recently completed a work placement in the Special Collections Department focusing on the management of the Borrow Collection. Keith Borrow (1917-2005) was a past president of the Pioneers' Association of South Australia and an avid collector of material relating to the early European settlement of South Australia. His bequest to the Flinders University is a massive assembly of over 2,000 published works, dozens of archive boxes, tapes (over 500 reel to reel), furniture and index cards and much more. Much of this work is unlabelled and all has needed to be collated and put on a digital index so that a web site can be developed. This is due to be launched on October 17th. Details are available from the Flinders University.

Catherine Mannering, Curator of the Migration Museum, presented the next paper, *Hope: finding a voice for young people in museums*. This paper was based

on an exhibition which has been running at the Migration Museum and only recently closed. Young people aged 14-17 years, considered problematic by mainstream institutions, maybe homeless, having issues with drugs and alcohol or simply having dropped out of the mainstream education system, were involved in putting together an exhibition without objects. It reflected how a museum can be a 'safe place for unsafe stories'. Catherine discussed the process involved in working with these young people and the restrictions imposed by privacy rules that resulted in censorship of some of the exhibits. The third paper of this session was presented by David Sweet and had the title *Pie floaters, fritz and shoeboxes: the photographic legend of Australian baby boomers*. David Sweet has had a wide ranging career and joined the University of South Australia in 2006. In that year he began his PhD on the title of his talk. It examines the influence on family photography of those born between 1946 and 1959. The need and means to preserve material in this 'throw-away society' was discussed.

The question and discussion session following the presentations was lively and informative.

After a delicious lunch we were directed to a fleet of buses which took the conference attendees to a variety of destinations. I joined the group that went to the St Kilda Tramway Museum and what a treat that was. Beginning with a ride in a drop-centre tram as far as the adventure playground and back, the tour took us into sheds and back rooms, many of which are not normally open to the general public. Our tour guide was the president of the Australian Electric Transport Museum volunteers and he answered all our questions with the knowledge of many years working with that group. The method of displaying the trams and tram memorabilia has evolved over the years and the latest tram shed, with its panels depicting the different trams is well worth the visit. In spite of the wintry weather, I think that everybody who took the tour felt it had been a really good choice.

The reception at the end of the day gave everybody the chance to mingle and discuss the different sessions.

Mary Wilson

Did you know?

- One of the world's longest-lived persons, Beatrice Mears, was born near the Victoria Park racecourse which was in the east parklands which surround the City of Adelaide and she lived most of her life in Burnside. She was Edna Bayfield's mother and she died in 2001 at the age of 113.

Richard Schomburgk

As reported in the September Newsletter, Vol. 28, No 3, by Barbara Parker, the guest speaker at the Eastern Regional Seminar was Dr Pauline Payne – author of *The Diplomatic Gardener. Richard Schomburgk: Explorer and Botanic Gardens Director*, a biography of her notable ancestor. Dr Schomburgk was born in Germany in 1811, third son of a pastor, other brothers being Robert, Otto and Julius (the renowned silversmith). Richard died in his 80th year after 25 years as the second Director of the Botanic Gardens.

In 1830 his older brother Robert led an expedition to British Guinea for the collection of flora and Richard (now apprenticed as a gardener) accompanied him. On a subsequent trip in 1842, they first saw the water lily, named *Victoria regia* (later *V. amazonica*) – it became known as the vegetable plant.

In 1848, after revolution in Berlin, many Germans became disillusioned and a ship, the *Princess Louise*, was organized to transport a group of 180 tradesmen and artisans to Adelaide, in SA. They brought with them many plants and even German apple trees. Collections of plants were also made from Portugal and Brazil en route. For many years the family lived near Gawler, north of the city, experimenting with cropping and animals that would survive and even thrive in Australian conditions.

Over time Richard, appointed as Director of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens in 1865, educated a generation of South Australians on how gardening could be carried out in the driest state of Australia. He lived with his wife, Pauline, and five daughters and a son, in the Director's residence on the grounds of the Botanic Gardens. The building was later demolished to allow for an expansion of the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Richard was a very practical person and, among other things, he organized the collection of manure from the city streets for use on the gardens. He was responsible for the layout of the Gardens to encourage visitors and many of his original plantings remain today, such as the Avenue of Moreton Bay Figs, American Ash and the *Pinus radiata*. The Victoria Lily was yet another chance to encourage more visitors – Adelaide was the only Australian city to have success with its growth under carefully controlled conditions.

Richard was responsible for the construction of the Palm House and the Museum of Economic Botany (currently undergoing renovations). He also planted over 7,000 trees showing what could be suitable for the Adelaide Hills and Plains.

He was involved with the experimental development of lawn grasses, such as buffalo and couch, and medicinal plants and pastures. He propagated hundreds of plants and trees to give away to local businesses and landscapers.

At the time, Adelaide Botanic Gardens received more funding than any other botanic gardens in Australia. Richard Schomburgk's life was a happy story of a man who succeeded against all odds and a man who made an enormous contribution to the "golden age" of our Adelaide Botanic Gardens.

Sharan Northcott



Introducing Colin Harris – new Committee Member and Vice President

Colin has been a member of the BHS since 1993 and is a third generation resident of the Burnside district. He grew up on what was then the outer limit of suburbia – Hill Street, Burnside – and after a brief absence in the country returned, living in the 1970s in Skye and since then in Rosslyn Park.

A geography and history graduate from the University of Adelaide, he initially taught in the SA secondary school system. Returning to the University of Adelaide to undertake postgraduate research, Colin tutored at that institution for some years. In 1973 he became one of the first scientific officers to be appointed to the newly formed South Australian Department of Environment and Conservation.

His subsequent career in that agency spanned almost thirty years and in 1999 he was awarded the Public Service Medal for his contribution to biodiversity conservation and natural resource management. At the time of retirement he was Director of Biodiversity Conservation in the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation.

A founding member of the Historical Society of SA and a past President of the Royal Geographical Society of SA, Colin is involved in many community organisations, dividing his time equally between his twin passions of history and natural history.

Recollections of my early years

Edna Bayfield

In the last edition of the Newsletter, September 2008, we continued Edna's story. In this installment Edna recalls her memories of life during her schooldays.

I've seen a lot of changes in house-keeping in my time. At Stepney we had a house with a passage down the middle. There were two little rooms off the kitchen – a bathroom and a pantry. If we wanted a hot bath we had to boil the wood copper out on the back veranda and bucket all the water into the bath. This happened once a week. Mum had a tub and when we were young my sister and I could have a bath in our bedroom in front of the fire which she had lit. We had to then hop straight into bed so that we didn't catch a chill. We moved to Pembroke Street in 1930 where we had a gas bath heater. At first everyone was scared stiff of it. Our house in Pembroke Street was one of the most recent built in that area and had so many "mod.cons." it was overwhelming, but very nice. I annexed part of the back yard for my garden. I installed an irrigation system of my own design and a pond at the far end. However, I soon lost interest when the chooks investigated it during my absence at school and scratched it into a mess.

My mother did the washing in a trough with a wash board and with a gas copper. It was well into the 1940s before we got a washing machine. I think it was a Simpson with an agitator. Until then my mother didn't trust new inventions so she always washed by hand. She doubted they washed the clothes properly. We bought an ice chest for the first time when I was at High School in 1938. A refrigerator arrived some years later. My mother used to get down on her hands and knees with a little brush and pan and brush the carpets twice a week. The carpets were a carpet square in each room surrounded by polished boards. Then the boards had to be polished. During the school holidays I used to get out the vacuum cleaner attachments and assemble and use them. It was quite a challenge for me.

My father was a commercial traveller in the suburbs. Initially he travelled by horse and trap, but shortly after I was born he changed to a motor car. It was the only car in the street and neighbors used to stand and stare as he drove past. He had several Morris Cowley cars until I was about eleven, then he changed to Vauxhalls. We used to go out on Sunday afternoon drives in the Morris Cowley, my parents in the front and my sister and I in the dicky seat behind. Frequent monitoring through the little oval window in the back of the cabin ensured that we did not misbehave. The highlight of those Sunday outings (usually to the foothills and in and around Burnside) was a stop in Hewitt Avenue, Rose Park, on the way home. Here I would jump out of the car and run to the back fence of

Otto von Rieben's property, *Attunga*. He had several large aviaries of birds, with the colourful parrots being my favourites. I used to stand and admire them, and talk to them.

My father used to play golf on the nine-hole course at Stonyfell. I can remember when it was announced that it was going to be closed and turned into building blocks. When I was eight or nine, my father used to drive to Hallett Road on Sunday mornings. He would line up golf balls and hit them down hill towards the city. I had to retrieve them from among the low bushes and grasses. This was in Erindale which was then mostly open space and unmade roads with very few houses.

I used to go to dancing classes at the Rivoli Hall which was at the north western corner of Knightsbridge Road and Glynburn Road (where the supermarket is today). Two sisters used to run dancing classes there on Saturdays. After a lot of talking and pleading my mother let me go. I had to walk there. I also had to choose which style I wanted to learn so I chose Tap dancing because ballet shoes were too costly. I was in a few concerts. They were at the Australia Theatre in Angas Street. There were three small boys in the classes because their mothers had decided that they should learn dancing, but they did not enjoy the experience; they used to hide under the stage.

I really wanted to learn to skate. Classes were held at the O.B.I. building in the city, but because I had broken my arm in Grade Three, it was forbidden. My best friend became a champion skater. I felt I could have done that too, had I gone along with her. The possibility of another broken arm – or leg – was just too much to contemplate.

People who lived opposite us when I was young used to keep bees in Slape's Gully immediately east of Burnside. Once or twice I was asked if I would like to come up with them to the bees. I thought the idea was marvellous. They had a car and we kids all piled into the back seat. While they were tending the hives we would explore the surrounding country. It was like being out in the bush and I loved it.

The quarry trucks always came down Kensington Road, usually at a fair speed. I can remember when I was five my mother would say "You be careful crossing Kensington Road. Don't you go and run in front of those quarry trucks. Always let them go past." They came down Stonyfell Road and then Hallett Road to get onto Kensington Road. My best friend's father worked at the quarry, so I learned much about quarries from her.

To visit the city we had the option of walking to Marryatville and catching the tram at Tusmore Avenue or walking to the Parade, then known as Halton Terrace, and catching a tram from there. In both cases the fare was four pence for adults, two pence for children. The ride lasted about 25 minutes; which ever walk we chose it took about 10 minutes. We shopped at Marryatville – Linn’s bakery, Borhardt’s butcher shop, White’s green grocery and CPS (Central Provision Stores) were our regular suppliers. It seemed an awfully long way up Kensington Road when it came to carrying all the provisions home. Many of my friends from Marryatville School were given 6 pence on Saturday afternoons to see the matinee show at the Princess Theatre (now the Chelsea), but this was out of bounds for me. I would have been about 12 years old when I saw my first movie.

Can you help?

The Bureau of Meteorology is looking for photographs of specific meteorological events that have occurred in South Australia during the last 120 years. If you can help with these, please contact the Bureau on 8366 2640, or the Editor on 8332 8019. The Bureau will digitize the material and return the photos.

They are looking for photos of:

- 27th July 1901: Snow on high ground from Mt Gambier to *Yardea* and any other snow events late 19th or early 20th century
- 11th June 1931: Tornado over Adelaide
- January 1939: Heatwave and fires in the Hills and other fires in 1908, 1932 and 2008.

Merry Christmas

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| <p>BURNSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. PO Box 152, Glenside SA 5065</p> |
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OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Society shall be:

- 2.1 to arouse interest in and to promote the study and discussion of Australian and South Australian history and in particular, the history of the City of Burnside;
- 2.2 to promote the collection, recording, preservation and classification of works, source material and artefacts of all kinds relating to Burnside history;
- 2.3 to assist in the protection and preservation of buildings, works and sites of historical significance in the City of Burnside;
- 2.4 to co-operate with similar societies and other bodies throughout Australia;
- 2.5 to do all such other things as are conducive or incidental to the attainment of any of the above objectives.

OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 2008-2009

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| President: | Isabel Williams, OAM, JP (8379 4090) |
| Responsible Officer: | “ “ “ “ “ |
| Vice-President: | Colin Harris, PSM (8331 3571) |
| Secretary: | Sharan Northcott (8332 1761) |
| Treasurer: | Richard House |
| Committee: | John Clark, John Love, Shirley Sumerling, Eleanor Trott, June Ward and Mary Wilson. |

Newsletter Subcommittee:

Elaine Smyth, Editor (8332 8019), Peter Davies, Barbara Parker, PSM and Elizabeth Rogers, OAM.

Contributors: Apart from the Newsletter Subcommittee, we are fortunate to have several occasional contributors whose names appear with their articles in the relevant issues.

Distribution Organiser: Shirley Sumerling (8364 3505)

Assistant : Eleanor Trott

Supper Co-ordinator: Hazel Newton

Meetings of the Society are held in the Burnside Community Centre, corner Portrush Road and Fisher Street, Tusmore (car park and entrance off Fisher Street) at 8 pm on the third Monday of the month unless an alternative time or venue is notified. Admission is free, including supper. Visitors are most welcome.

Membership fees: currently \$25 family, and \$17 single, due in April each year and may be sent to the Treasurer at the Society’s address (above) or paid at a monthly meeting.

Front Cover:

Hans Heysen at work in his studio, 1921.

The studio at *The Cedars* was purpose built for Hans and completed in 1913. It remains almost unaltered to the present and is set apart from the house on rising ground amongst some of the many gum trees on the property. It was built as a real workshop studio, a big, airy room with a high gabled roof. In one corner was a substantial bench made of Australian timber, whilst across an end of the studio was a large divan, a wonderful seat from which to view a work in progress.

Photograph and basis of text from *The Home. An Australian quarterly*. Vol. 2, No 4. December 1921. "A Visit to Heysen" by Freda Sternberg.

Disclaimer

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