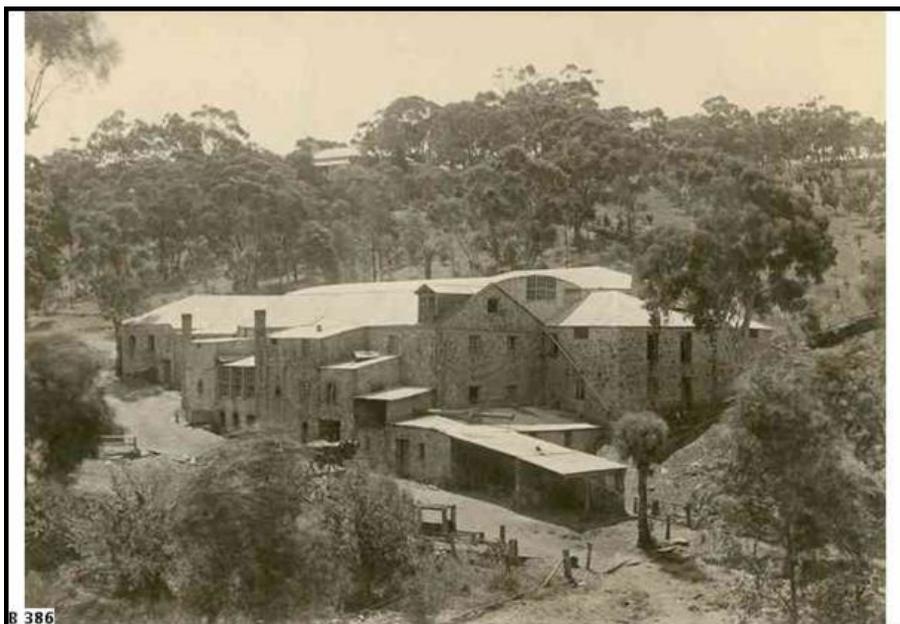


# Burnside Historical Society Inc.

## **NEWSLETTER - September 2014**

**Volume 34, No 3**

Website: [www.burnsidehistory.org.au](http://www.burnsidehistory.org.au)



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## From the Editor's Desk

Through members reaching out into the community by recording peoples' memories of earlier days in Burnside, or through participating in historic walks where they have encountered local people with specialised information, we have been able to broaden our source of local history. This edition includes some of these memories, but due to space we have had to defer others until a later date. All the same, please come forward with ideas as we are compiling a list for the future. Some people have written up the information and others have pointed us to the oral source.

It is important that we collect as much information as possible from the older members of the community, information that we can store in the Local History collection at the Burnside Library along with copies of our *Newsletter*.

At each of our meetings we have one of our members write up a short report of the talk for subsequent publishing in this *Newsletter*. If you are able to help with this, please contact me on 8332 8019 or [esmyth@adam.com.au](mailto:esmyth@adam.com.au).

**Elaine Smyth** (Editor)

\* Deadline for December 2014 Newsletter is 24 October.

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The Society gratefully acknowledges annual grant funding from the City of Burnside to help support the production of this *Newsletter*.

## President's Message

History SA has written to thank us, and over 350 event organisers, for participating in 555 events state-wide during May's History Festival. It is estimated that over 110,000 people attended these events. Open House Adelaide was so popular that from 2015 it is to be held over an October weekend.

On 13 May there was a handover of digital recordings of those of our meetings which have dealt with topics about the City of Burnside, along with interviews from the 2012-13 Oral History Project. This donation to the Local History Collection was well received by our new member, Burnside Mayor David Parkin and library staff, who organised the proceedings and afternoon tea for invited guests.

On 1 June David Wyatt led a tour for 16 members of places highlighted in his April talk. The walk focussed on aspects of the settlement and people involved in developing Coromandel Valley.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial Eastern Regional Historical Societies Seminar on 19 July was excellent. Tea Tree Gully hosted this day event and special thanks go to their President, Carole Simmonds and her team. Over 40 attended from five historical societies. Each group shared information about one of their events – successful or otherwise! I talked about the handover of our digital recordings.

Our July meeting was very well attended, 60 in total, including many supporters of the Adelaide Art Deco and Modernism Society. David O'Loughlin, Convenor of that group, captured the audience attention with a visually interesting presentation on *Art Deco* from Adelaide to Paris! Local Art Deco houses and David's amazingly intact residence on Prospect Road increased our appreciation of this style of architecture. Thanks to Ally Preiss for organising this talk.

Our volunteers work with Burnside Council on a number of projects, giving their time, knowledge and skills to the benefit of local community. Cathy Bransbury, a former school librarian, works in the Local History Room on Wednesday mornings. Colin Harris is working with a Council reference group to create a variety of signage to highlight the various uses of Hazelwood Park, in particular the Burnside Swimming Centre, now under redevelopment. There are others who help at our meetings. We thank Glen Cowley for collecting the key, opening up and with help,

setting out the chairs. We appreciate Derek Bransbury and Bryan Harris for recording meetings with Ross Both as reserve. This will enable the Society to continue to make talks of the City of Burnside area available to the Local History Collection.

There have been some verbal responses from Safework SA and Heritage SA regarding the AMC Wheal Watkins Report commissioned by the Society last year. Dr Ross Both and I met in July with Mayor David Parkin and Kevan Delaney (Manager Engineering Services). Further discussion is to occur at an August Council meeting.

I have recently represented the Society at the John McDouall Stuart Society Golden Jubilee celebrations on Sunday 27 July. It was at Stuart statue in Victoria Square and followed by a luncheon at the Masonic Lodge at Tusmore. Their President of ten years is Rick Moore, one of our members.

**Meredith Ide JP**

## **SUBS RENEWALS FOR 2014/2015**

All subscriptions fall due on **1 April this year**: the amount was set at the AGM.

Memberships may be paid at our monthly meetings, by direct bank transfer, or posted to the Treasurer, Richard House, at the Society's address indicated on the inside back cover.

### **To pay by Direct Bank Transfer**

Bank Name	BankSA
Account Name	Burnside Historical Society
BSB	105 086
Account No	330298840
Your Name	Ensure that this field shows <i>your name</i> clearly
Amount	\$25 for a single member or \$37 for family members.
Message/Reference	Enter this field as <i>BHS subscription</i>

**If you are un-financial there is a reminder insert in this *Newsletter*.**

## Program of MEETINGS and EVENTS for 2014

MEETINGS of the Burnside Historical Society are held in the Burnside Community Centre, corner of Portrush Road and Fisher Street, Tusmore (car park and entrance off Fisher Street) at **7.30 pm** on the third Monday of the month, unless an alternative time or venue is notified. Admission is free and supper provided. Visitors are most welcome.

### **Monday 15 September** – Lyn O’Grady

*Kennion House – the Anglican Boys’ Home in Walkerville*

The Church of England Boys’ Home in Walkerville cared for boys from broken and destitute homes for nearly 100 years. The Home accepted boys from the age of 4 and they stayed until 12 years of age when, in most cases, they were placed in laboring work. The oral history project scratches the surface of the memories of the ‘old boys’ now in their senior years. What did the Home mean to them, what was life really like and were there any good times?

Lyn O’Grady became an oral historian in the mid-1990s as part of a Walkerville Library project. She became interested in local history and, after attending a State History Conference, founded the Walkerville Historical Society in the year 2000. Since then she has gathered as much information as can be found, or offered, on the people and places of this small suburb, established as the third village outside of Adelaide in December 1838.

### **Monday 20 October** – Alan Hartley

*They Crossed the World to Settle in South Australia – A Song Writer’s View*

Alan is a fourth generation South Australian in his Mother’s line with a life-long passion for musical performance. Now in his 60s, Alan began a “late life blossoming” as a song writer some four years ago, initially inspired by the history of his ancestors who came to South Australia between 1838 and 1864 from Scotland, Wales and England, including Cornwall. Alan will present a collection of his original songs giving a

perspective on their history and its impact today. Short introductions to each composition provide background and context.

Alan has a “real job” as a Project Manager with the Department of Transport balanced with a life-long passion for music. After playing and performing songs written by others for over 50 years, Alan has now developed a body of nearly one hundred original songs and instrumentals. His song lyrics are built on the experience and perspective of a lifetime where hopes, wishes and the whimsical meet stories past and present.

### **Monday 17 November – Christeen Schoepf**

*The Cheer-Up Society of First World War SA: aspects of the significant story of the war work of South Australian women*

In November 1914, a cleverly played out publicity stunt by Alexandrina Seager and editor of the *Register*, William Sowden, ensured that the immediate needs of those men who were leaving for the First World War were provided. By 1920, every soldier departing from Adelaide had been sent off, welcomed home and cared for by the hundreds of volunteers of the Cheer-Up Society whose significant story is yet to be adequately told.

Recently honoured as South Australia’s Emerging Historian of the Year, Christeen Schoepf is a historical archaeologist and community historian in the final phase of her PhD at the University of New England. Christeen’s projects focus on the notion of object biography as a research tool and she has spoken locally in SA, nationally and internationally on her work. A recipient of multiple scholarships and bursaries, Christeen is a member of Oral History Australia (SA), the Australian Women’s History Network and the Army Museum SA.

Welcome to our latest new members: Deborah Morgan, Burnside Mayor David Parkin, Tony and Elizabeth Wiedeman and Rosemary Scrutton. We hope you can enjoy your membership with us and learning about the history of the City of Burnside.

## **Undelcarra Garden Walk**

Sunday 28 September 2014, 2.30-3.30 pm

Many Society members will know of *Undelcarra*, one of the grand 19<sup>th</sup> century estates of foothills Burnside. Listed on the South Australian State Heritage Register, its stately residence and gardens have been home to a number of notable South Australians, including Simpson Newland and Allen Simpson.

*Undelcarra* is still held by the Simpson family and, through the courtesy of BHS members Antony and Mary Lou Simpson, there will be a rare opportunity to tour the gardens and view the exterior of the residence on 28 September 2014.

*Because this will be a walk in a garden setting it is necessary to limit the number of participants to 15. Those wishing to take part will need to have the mobility to cope with narrow paths and some uneven surfaces. Undelcarra is Antony and Mary Lou's private residence and the visit will not include the interior of the home.*

Participation will be determined by order of registration and those wishing to take part should contact Colin Harris on (08) 8331 3571 or [colin.harris6@bigpond.com](mailto:colin.harris6@bigpond.com). Those registered for the walk should gather at the main gates to *Undelcarra*, 13 Undelcarra Road, Burnside, at 2.15 pm.

## **Nineteenth century post-contact Adelaide archaeology**

Monday 17 March 2014

What lies under those floor boards? Some surprising things in what used to be the women's section of the old 'Adelaide Gaol': bones (not human), fragments of high quality crockery, an Aboriginal tool made of European glass (Aboriginal people commonly used European materials for their own

purposes.) It would seem that scraps like these were discarded by the Indigenous people and some early European settlers who built temporary huts along the banks of the Torrens between 1836 and 1841, before the gaol was built. Smaller things that could have fallen down between the floor boards include sewing implements and a ring (unfortunate woman!).

Removing part of a concrete floor in another gaol building revealed an earlier wall cut down to act as support for the new floor, an area paved with South Australian bricks and a mysterious low brick arch in a stone wall – perhaps over a drain? As the gaol complex grew, buildings and their functions changed, giving archaeologists a good many puzzles to work on.

Preliminary excavations for the new Adelaide Hospital have turned up thousands of items. These include Cunard Line crockery, tobacco pipes in the shape of negro heads, a Holloways ointment jar, glass syringes, a tooth brush made of whale bone, ‘stone jars’ from the Hindmarsh pottery, hotel drinking glasses and bottles, jewellery of the kind made by JM Wendt, a child’s china doll, rooster leg bones with spurs (cock fighting trophies?), animal bones, oyster shells and more Aboriginal artefacts.

The City Council used parts of the park lands as rubbish dumps and now the refuse gives some insight into the life of Adelaide over several decades of the nineteenth century. Some other Adelaide sites have been investigated, mainly in a race against the bulldozer as the old is cleared away for the new. There is considerable potential for relating these archaeological projects to each other. However, Keryn Walshe’s interpretation of the artefacts she has found has convinced her that by the third quarter of the nineteenth century, Adelaide was a thriving and up-to-date city.

## **John Love**

The University of Adelaide and the Migration Museum  
are jointly presenting a symposium on **29-30 September 2014**  
*Hostel Stories Reflecting on the Past, Looking Forward*

It will focus on the role of South Australian migrant hostels and other forms of temporary accommodation in the lives of those who migrated to Australia from the late 1940s to the 1990s.

Enquiries: [sredman@history.sa.gov.au](mailto:sredman@history.sa.gov.au)

# Searching Coromandel Valley's History

Monday 21 April 2014

David Wyatt gave a very detailed talk about early settlement of Coromandel Valley, followed by a bus tour of the area on 1 June.

On January 12, 1837 the *Coromandel* arrived at Holdfast Bay and whilst it was anchored some of the crew absconded and followed the Patawalonga Creek up to the hills to the Sturt River. Here they were about 16 km south of Adelaide and could see the ship. Later, in 1839, Colonel William Light surveyed the area, mainly into 80 acre sections, and the area became known as Coromandel Valley.

The steep hills and narrow valleys were not really suited to cereal farming, but the land available was fertile and well watered. The first settlers were mainly self-sufficient, keeping animals for milk and work, and growing their own crops for food and market gardening. The houses were usually made of local timber, but later they were from locally quarried stone. By the 1840s about forty buildings had been erected in the area and from the early 1850s onwards the township of Coromandel Valley gradually took shape.

The first to purchase land in 1837 were James and John Chambers, passengers from the *Coromandel*. They provided an early mail service to Adelaide. Samuel Gill arrived in 1839 and he was the first settler to put down roots in the area, building *Coromandel House*. Gill opened a private boarding and day school there and later became the Post Master. He then married Alexander Murray's sister, Elizabeth, after his wife had died but he died in 1852 and the school closed. His son, S T Gill, became a well-known artist of South Australia and the eastern goldfields.

Gill's school was replaced in 1850 by a dual-purpose school room and chapel on land donated by Thomas Matthew. The school was erected by public subscription and the building was used by the Wesleyans and the Baptists. Samuel Gill was its Head Teacher, but in 1877 the Education Department built a new school and teacher's residence on the present site.

Alexander Murray came to SA in 1840 and moved to Coromandel Valley in 1845 where he established a fruit garden on his property *Craiglee*. He was manufacturing jam from locally grown fruit by 1854. He

subsequently went to Scotland and purchased steam driven machinery to produce biscuits, building a factory on the western side of the Sturt River valley. Excavated into the side of a hill, gravity was employed in manufacture of the biscuits. As the business expanded he put two more storeys onto the building and by 1868 it was producing over 150,000 pounds of biscuits a year and employing around twelve people, later rising to a peak of around sixty 60 employees. He was a foremost manufacturer in South Australia at the time, marketing the products internationally. He died in 1880.

His son Alexander jun, purchased an adjoining property which he named *Craigburn*, taking over the business when his father died, but then in 1898 he died tragically riding home from a Mitcham Council meeting. His home had been used for Anglican services prior to the South Australian Company donating land for St John's Church in 1872.

Thomas Turner arrived in 1848 and soon built a home of stone quarried from the property, *Swinton House*. It is still being used by descendants who farm some of the land. Enoch Shepley was a friend of Turner's and he took over the role of Post Master from Samuel Gill in the late 1860s when he built a two storied house and a store near the Sturt River ford, and a bakehouse across the road. In 1853 Richard Winn took up land in the area and in the 1880s his son purchased the bakehouse and butcher shops at the ford.

David emphasised that the early settlers were earning from the land and were very community minded, establishing a range of buildings needed for the growing settlement. The next settlers were people with skills and trades and land was not their focus. The Coromandel Valley Cricket Club was formed in 1862 and was one of the earliest in the state. The Methodist Church was completed in 1859 and the Church of England in 1873. The Institute, constructed of local stone was opened in 1881.

The Valley enjoyed relatively easy access for its produce to Adelaide once the roads were established. The main route from Adelaide to Goolwa went through the valley and was known as the Bull's Creek Road. It was routed along the ridge and then down Coromandel Parade, crossing the Sturt River at the ford. The traffic was mainly bullock drays, horses and coaches. In 1860 a road through the valley was surveyed and a new crossing, Homer's Bridge, was opened in 1866 over the Sturt River at the end of Coromandel Parade. It was a classic single span stone arch and was the first bridge across the Sturt River in the area. A second bridge was built near the

Methodist Church in 1872. By 1875 tenders were being called to make drains and metal the road through the Valley.

Changes in settlement patterns were significant after the railway to Nairne opened in 1883. It brought new people to the district, but Coromandel Valley itself, in 1891, was still a small township of around 140 people and 30 houses. That year the SA Company put its land up for sale, mainly subdivided into smaller working men's blocks. This brought a whole new wave of settlers to the district.

## **Elaine Smyth**

### **Dorrit Black retrospective**

The Art Gallery of SA is currently showing a retrospective exhibition of Dorrit Black's art work. It continues until 7 September 2014.

Dorrit Black grew up at *Bell Yett*, Wattle Park and attended the small, privately run Knightsbridge School in Statenborough Street, Leabrook where she was encouraged to follow her own dreams and develop her interest in Art. Later she attended the SA School of Arts and Crafts and also undertook private painting lessons. She continued her art training and painting in Europe, before returning to Sydney and, later, Adelaide. She was a pioneer of modern art in Australia, her work having a strong geometric form, and was the first woman to run a gallery in Australia, in Sydney.

Many of the works on view in the exhibition relate to Dorrit's life in Australia and in South Australia and included in the exhibition is a reconstruction of the studio and home she had designed for herself in Romalo Avenue Magill (since demolished). The exhibition brings together her works of art sketches, oil paintings and lino-cuts, many of which are held in private collections. Dorrit did not actively sell her works and many were collected by family and friends.

One of her best-known art works, *The Olive Plantation*, depicts the old Crompton olive plantation above the Penfold Winery and is featured on the interpretative signage the BHS and the City of Burnside have designed and installed in the *Bell Yett Reserve* at Wattle Park

# Handover of Digital Recordings

## At the Burnside Library

13 May 2014

During History Month Burnside Library Staff, BHS members and guests attended a ceremonial handover of digital recordings of Society meetings and others from the Oral History Project.

John Love has recorded many of the presentations of speakers to the Society. He talked about the conversion from magnetic tapes to digital recordings of past monthly meetings by Utel Pty. Ltd. These covered the period 1980-2010 on subjects directly relevant to Burnside. Seventy talks were handed over to the Local History Collection and a further 10 (2011-13) will follow. Also, 18 interviews from the Society's 2012-13 Oral History Project *Memory Chains—living—working—playing in The City of Burnside for 1945-65*, were given to the collection. Future recordings of talks and interviews relevant to Burnside will be handed over as they become available.

*A Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Burnside Library and Burnside Historical Society Inc.* has been drawn up and this relates to ownership of copyright, and preserving and cataloguing the recordings. The Library will provide space for the secure storage of the Society's archives,

The cost of digitising meeting tapes and conversion of the Oral History interviews to disc totalled nearly \$3,600. Big Egg Media converted the interviews to disc. A copy of each interview has been given to each interviewee, with the Society retaining a copy. Next month the interviews will be delivered to the State Library of South Australia for inclusion in the J D Somerville Collection.

The Historical Society of South Australia provided grants for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 Oral History Projects to continue interviews. The Society is pleased to hand over the collection of memories to date, with a promise of more to follow, as it supports our long term objective of *Keeping the Past Alive*. Mayor David Parkin, in accepting the digitised recordings, said that the donation was a valuable and useful City of Burnside resource for the use of future generations.

**Meredith Ide**

## Constable William Hyde

*For many years I lived on Tusmore Avenue and frequently passed the fountain memorial to a Police Constable on the western side of Tusmore Avenue. The plaque attached stated that William Hyde had been shot in the vicinity in January 1909. I was somewhat dismayed when this memorial was relocated to a new site on the other side of Tusmore Avenue in the grounds of the old Marryatville Primary School in the 1980s, effectively destroying its historical context I thought. The recent restoration and rededication of the Constable's grave at West Terrace Cemetery has led me to consider again the shooting of William Hyde. This is an attempt to piece together with as much accuracy as possible the story of the shooting.*

### **A MARRYATVILLE TRAGEDY – “The Knightsbridge Murder”**

On a hot night in January 1909 the shooting of a Police Constable took place at Marryatville. The Constable had been pursuing his duty (according to newspaper reports he was in uniform) and was especially alert to ‘suspicious looking characters’ following a series of burglaries which had occurred in Adelaide and suburbs in the weeks prior to January. The shooting brought about the end of William Hyde a short while after unsuccessful surgery at the Adelaide Hospital. The end of the life of ‘an exceedingly well liked --- and capable officer’.

#### **Who was this man – William Hyde?**

*The man in blue, glazed cap, baton, buttons and white gloves is an object so well known that unless occasion needs it he passes by almost unnoticed.* Not so Constable Hyde. Police and newspaper records tell us that he was a police constable born on 21 August 1874 at Allandale East, SA, the third son of William Hyde. Young William had worked as a farm labourer before joining the police force in May 1902 as 3<sup>rd</sup> class Foot Constable stationed at Adelaide. On 29 April 1903 he was transferred to the Marryatville Station replacing Foot Constable Ring (transferred to Glenelg where he also became victim of a shooting in late 1907) and on

the 4 January 1908 was promoted to be second in charge under Sergeant (some reports say Constable) Drenckham. Hyde was 5 feet 11 inches in height and at the time of his death was described by Drenckham as being popularly known as “Bill”, an exceptionally good athlete playing cricket for the Boskenna Cricket Club – indeed the Saturday before he met his death he had made 59 runs for the club. In the 1907 football season he had played with East Torrens B team and had practised regularly on Norwood Oval.

### **What were the events which led to the death of Hyde?**

Newspaper reports of the day record that on the evening of 2 January 1909 three men were noticed standing under a pepper tree at the rear of the Marryatville Hotel close to the tramways office (terminus of the Adelaide and Suburban Tramway Company horse tram which ran along the then Marryatville Road, later Kensington Road). The presence of these three men was commented upon to Constable Hyde by Mrs Purches, the wife of the then licensee of the hotel who was nearby with her daughter. The men drew attention to themselves as they were seen to be wearing greatcoats, which appeared at odds with the hot evening temperature (noted late by Miss D Jones as being 104°F that day, but stated by Mr Schuetze as being 110°F). Was it their intent to rob the tramways office? Constable Hyde spoke to the men who then moved off to Marryatville Road and were thought to have taken refuge in Linn’s paddock in Eastry Street, (now northern end of Tusmore Avenue). According to former Norwood historian Dan Manning, the men had entered the tramways office, were then spoken to by Hyde and immediately ran off with the Constable in pursuit.

The paddock was inhabited by a pony that was part-owned by Hyde with Mr Charlie Correl of the local “ham shop”. The pony had injured itself on the wire surrounding the paddock and it is thought that on the evening in question Hyde may have been on his way to check on the pony when his attention had been drawn to the three men. A skirmish ensued and Hyde succeeded in holding one man struggling on the ground while the man’s two companions ran off. They then turned back to assist the man on the ground and one of them was heard to say by a witness Mr H Fordham “he’s alright, he’s on his own”. Five revolver shots were fired, the last of these hitting Hyde in the head. As he lay on the ground in Eastry Street, Mrs H Schuetze, a friend, happened to be passing and as a trained nurse before marriage came to render assistance. Ice for the wound was obtained from Correl’s shop and the wound was dressed by Mrs Schuetze. Some reports note a Miss Jones giving him a drink of water, but it is not clear whether

this was before or after the event. Hyde was then transported to the Police Station where he was attended by Dr Borthwick (at that time Health Officer for Kensington and Norwood) who arranged for him to be admitted, via ambulance, to the Adelaide Hospital. He was admitted by Dr Parkhouse at 11.20pm. On 3 January, shortly after admission, an operation was performed by Dr Todd, Honorary Surgeon, with Dr Betts and Dr Magarey present. There was an attempt to retrieve the bullet, but it could not be located. He had sustained a fracture to the base of the skull, and post surgery remained unconscious (both Inspector Priest and William's brother Hezekiah visited him in the hospital and noted the he remained in an unconscious state). A letter from J C Williams at the City Watch house informed City Coroner William Ramsay Smith Esq. that Constable Hyde had died (4 January) following admission to hospital as a result of a gunshot wound to the head. The inquest was to be held at the Adelaide Hospital at 3.30pm the following day.

### **Let's now hear from the eyewitnesses:**

#### **Mrs Schuetze's story**

Mrs Schuetze was the wife of a commercial traveler and lived in Statenborough St. As she was walking with her husband's cousin, Miss Schuetze they "saw four men doubling backwards and forwards across the road, and then two of them fell to the ground. We heard 4 or 5 revolver shots, but it never occurred to us anything was amiss. We thought that it was some men indulging in New Year's horseplay, then I saw one of the men place something on the fence of the paddock behind Coopers' brewery and take aim. There was a flash accompanied by a report and then the man remarked "*Take that you bastard*". The seriousness of the business then dawned upon us. There was a man standing in the middle of the road with a bicycle and I called out to him "*Can you go and help?*" but he made no reply and did not move. Three men ran across the paddock and one remained on the ground. I rushed up to him and found that he was my lifelong friend Mr Hyde. He was bleeding profusely from the face and was unconscious. I bathed his wound and tried to make him comfortable; presently he came to and recognized me because he said "*what are you doing Ali? (Alice) What has happened?*" Later on the ambulance arrived and I (some reports say also her husband) accompanied Mr Hyde to the Police Station and then to the hospital. He was quite conscious all the way in and remarked "*I caught one of them didn't I?*" He was able to throw no more light, however, on what had happened and again asked for the facts

several times.

### **Mr H Fordham**

Mrs Fordham lived in Eastry St. and saw the affray at a distance: “I saw Hyde chasing three men one of whom he caught, the others ran on, then turned back. I heard one say “*He’s alright, he’s on his own*”. Five revolver shots were fired the last one hit Hyde and all three made off across the paddock behind Cooper’s”.

### **Shuttleworths**, father and son, of Statenborough St.

C J Shuttleworth and his son Leonard were sitting in their garden when they heard shots fired and saw three men running across the paddock in the moonlight. They climbed over Shuttleworth’s back fence, Leonard ran to the front hedge to intercept them, one fired his revolver towards Leonard, the bullet lodging in the roof of the house. The men then got through the hedge into Statenborough St. Two went up the street towards the hills and the third across Mr Jones’ paddock (next to that of Mr Linn).

### **Publican’s wife**

She described the men as being “two of stout build, and one rather slimmer and all wearing overcoats and caps.”

### **M Auld and sister**

Recounting what her and his sister had observed as children Mr Auld gave the following account; “went to get ice-creams, on return dropped the change of two pennies, as it was dark, a fellow leaning on a post at edge of the footpath was asked for a match – we found the pennies” Mr Auld remarked to his sister about the man wearing a coat on a hot night.

Others who witnessed or heard the event included Mr Robert Lowes (dentist) and Mrs E Pitman who saw Hyde following the three men.

**Sergeant Drenckham** was on duty in Bishop’s Place when he heard the shots. He returned to the station as a messenger arrived via bicycle. Drenckham telephoned for medical assistance and then went to Eastry St and had Hyde removed to the police station on a bread board secured from the local baker (some reported a door). Hyde was groaning and breathing heavily but said he was alright “*only my jaw aches*”. After the wounded policeman was removed to hospital, Drenckham informed the Metropolitan

Watch house and “at least a score of uniformed men and several plain clothed officers were dispatched to Marryatville. These included Constables Thomas, W Kennedy, Hawke, J Feehan, D Keane and Martin”. A search was made of the paddocks and local quarries. Drenckham commenting on Hyde said that “he was exceedingly well liked in the district and was a capable officer --- He has a brother, Hezekiah, in the police force. Bill, as he is known is popular ---” In his report Drenckham mentions the assistance of Mrs Schuetze and that Hyde was transferred to hospital where he was admitted at 11.20pm on 2 January by Dr Parkhouse.

**Inspector Priest** on the likelihood of finding Hyde’s assailants “Of course one must realize that the closing of the mines and the fact of a great deal of rough work being now obtainable in this State naturally attracts a sprinkling of varied characters, although past experience has taught us that we need no importations for Saturday night’s kind of outrage. The fact that Norwood football colours were found in one of the overcoats recovered gives some colour to the suggestion that local men were responsible for the outrage”.

### **Search for evidence at site of struggle**

A search of the paddock next to Mr Linn’s paddock showed bloodstains on the ground and a friend of Hyde’s, a Mr T Graham, picked up a six chambered revolver fully loaded. A felt hat was found in a paddock behind Coopers as were two coats and a bloodstained felt hat and a loose mask and a green baize mask in a coat together with Norwood football colours in a coat. All these items were sent to the Police. A third coat was found above Burnside by Mr A McDiarmid. Dorothy Tagg, nee Jones, a child at the time of the shooting, claimed to Dan Manning in 1976, that the revolver was found in Jones’ cow yard on the following morning. She had previously seen the men in overcoats looking in shop windows during the afternoon of January 2, a fact also reported to Hyde that evening by Mrs Purches the wife of the publican.

If the police were to attempt apprehension of these three men description of them was paramount.

As given to the police::

**Suspect One:** 25-30 years, 5 foot 8 or 9 inches, dark complexion, dark moustache, clipped

**Suspect Two:** 25-30 years, 5 foot 8 or 9 inches, fair complexion,

light moustache, medium length

**Suspect Three:** 27 years, 6 feet, ruddy complexion, strong build, low cut vest.

The *Register* of January 7 reported that “*in spite of the rigorous action in every direction by the police all their efforts to bring to book the murderers of Constable Hyde so far have been unsuccessful. No fresh clue of importance was obtained by the officers of the law on Wednesday but a thorough search is being maintained by the detectives*”.

A reward of £250 was posted and by 4 February this had been increased to £500.

### **Arrests!**

The *Register* of February 4/23 1909 p5 reports the arrest in NSW of two suspects, who were charged at Paddington Police court with theft of jewelry at Randwick and ? murder of a police Constable in South Australia. Peter (Percy) McKay was described as ‘labourer’ the second suspect William Robertson, alias King, as a ‘chauffeur from Adelaide’. These two men were never convicted in relation to the Hyde matter and to this date no conviction has been obtained for this crime, in spite of the ‘deathbed confession’ of a Shean O’Riordan (serving a sentence in a West Australian gaol) to the killing of Constable Hyde among other crimes (W O Connell in 1974 to D W Manning, former Norwood historian). Other arrests in Adelaide also occurred. *The Register* of 9 February records that two men were arrested on suspicion of involvement although the initial premise on which the arrests occurred was ‘no visible means of support’ and robberies. However, they were found not guilty of the shooting of Constable Hyde.

In late February the State Government agreed to pay the sum of £500 as compensation to the mother of Hyde.

### **Anne Both**

Anne spoke at our 19 May 2014 meeting with the proposition “*Who killed William Hyde?*”

There are two papers which continue this story and they will be published in the future.

## References

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Constable Hyde Memorial Gardens, on the south eastern corner of Kensington Road and Tusmore Avenue has a plaque under a tree which was planted in memory of Hyde and another plaque was installed nearby in 1981 referring to the shooting.

A recent move by the South Australian Government to sell the reserve (formerly the grounds of Marryatville Primary School) sparked heated local opposition. The City of Burnside, which has managed the reserve for many years, was offered the land, but at a prohibitively high commercial value. A proposal to have the reserve placed on the State.

Heritage Register did not progress and talks are continuing between the State Government and the City of Burnside over a possible land swap.

This tree was planted  
in memory of  
Constable Wm. Hyde  
who was shot here  
by highwaymen  
2nd Jan. 1909

# The Teapot and the Bible

Monday 16 June 2014

Guest speakers, Pam Gray and Barbara Macey (otherwise known as the 'Waterhouse Girls'), began their address with a short biography of their great-great-grandfather Frederick George Waterhouse who was born on 25 August 1815, the son of a London solicitor. He married Fanny Shepherd in 1851 when he was 36 and she was 20 and in 1852 they migrated to Adelaide. They commenced their journey/honeymoon with a leisurely sojourn through Europe to Italy, from where they sailed in the *Sydney*, the first steamship to journey to Australia.

Waterhouse's time at the British Museum, where his special interest was entomology, along with his general scientific and zoological knowledge, led to his appointment as the first curator of the SA Museum. In Adelaide, he purchased a house and five acres of scrub on Lockwood Road, Burnside. The house, *Wandeen*, was greatly expanded over the years, but has been demolished and the grounds taken up by residential development.

Like many others, Waterhouse failed in an attempt at making a fortune on the Ballarat goldfields, but he also invested badly as a major shareholder in a newly established bank in South Australia, leaving him almost penniless. Barbara provided a picture of family life; of Frederick and Fanny's six children, only two of whom married. The eldest, Lucy Warner, married Sydney Thomas, Director of Harris Scarfe Ltd, whose son Chester is the grandfather of Australia's first astronaut, Andrew Thomas. Members of the family remembered Frederick as a kindly, caring parent and grandparent, but one who did not suffer fools gladly.

His work at the Museum met several difficulties, not the least of which was finding space for the great variety of material, much of it from overseas. By 1862 his enthusiasm had seen the collection grow from one room to three and eventually moved into its own building in 1882, the year he retired. He died in 1898 at the age of 83, a Fellow of the Royal Society, the Royal Zoological Society and the Museum Society. He is also remembered through the present-day Waterhouse Club which supports the SA Museum's annual Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize.

Frederick's role in the famous Stuart expedition was outlined in the talk. Stuart did not want the government-appointed naturalist on the expedition; it was understood he would keep field notes, but not a journal. However the

boundaries became blurred and in recording the discovery of specimens of wild life he also described the country through which they travelled, detailing it in a 48 page report to the State Government.

He discovered the Princess Parrot at Daly Waters, with it being included in John Gould's *The Birds of Australia*. His family takes deep pride in his contribution to the State and his determination to survive the long trek with Stuart and his party.

This brought us to the Bible and the teapot, both on display at the meeting.

Pam's father, Francis Charles, was given the Bible by Mr and Mrs Eric Warland of Burnside they had found it after nearly 40 years in the back of a cupboard in their spare bedroom where Frederick's son Jack had left it while staying with them. The date of the Bible, 7 July 1853, was that of the wedding anniversary of Frederick and Fanny and was a gift from Frederick to his wife.

When Frederick sold *Wandeen* in 1897 he moved to Manna Hill near Broken Hill, living with his son Edward, where he died the following year. Barbara outlined how her great aunt Kathleen Waterhouse passed the silver teapot to her parents as a silver wedding anniversary present. After being neglected for many years, the family treasure finally surfaced a couple of years ago, much to the delight of the family.

**Peter Davies**

## **Eastern Regional Seminar**

### ***The Tea Tree that grew and grew***

Saturday 19 July 2014

We had 16 members attend this enlightening event at Tea Tree Gully and we were not disappointed. A friendly group of people welcomed us and they were very organized and generous of spirit.

The keynote speaker was Dr Jeff Nicholas and his topic was *The Reform Club and South Australia*. He has been researching for his two books on this topic for over 14 years. He highlighted the importance of the links

between the prestigious Reform Club in Pall Mall, London and the Colony of South Australia.

In 1832 the British Parliament enacted a Reform Bill which introduced wide ranging changes to the electoral system in England and Wales giving fairer representation in Parliament and in 1834 introduced the Colonisation Act providing for the settlement of the British Province of South Australia. Colonisation was to reflect the views of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, who wanted to encourage systematic settlement based on a class structure similar to that in England and in 1836 formal colonisation began in South Australia.

There were 60 inaugural members of the Reform Club in 1837 and of these there are 30 names remaining in our community because of the streets named after them. These men were social reformers, writers and poets, anti-slavery activists and social and political economists. Some of these famous names were Grote, Molesworth, Ward, John Stuart Mill, O'Connell, Rowland Hill, George Fife Angas, Torrens, Wakefield, Hindley, Grenfell, Lefevre, Currie, Hutt, and Rundle.

Dr Nicholas suggested our State is the best example of systematic Colonisation anywhere in the world and is deserving of World Heritage status. His two books will be available from Wakefield Press in 2015:

*The Streets of Adelaide: A Parthenon of Dissent*

*The Streets of North Adelaide: A Parthenon of Dissent*

Lunch was at *The Fox and Firkin* which was originally a steam mill built in 1853. This was followed by a tour of the town precinct, Council Chambers, Old Highercombe Hotel museum, a blacksmith demonstration and Haines Park.

It was a very friendly and special event.

**Sharan Northcott**

**Did you know:** - When the George Bolton Swimming Centre in Hazelwood Park was first filled in the 1966, the water was drawn from First Creek which runs through the park.

**OBJECTIVES**—The objectives of the Society shall be:

- \* 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;
- \* to promote the collection, recording, preservation and classification of works, source material and artefacts of all kinds relating to Burnside history;
- \* to assist in the protection and preservation of buildings, works and sites of historical significance in the City of Burnside;
- \* to co-operate with similar societies and other bodies throughout Australia;
- \* to do all such other things as are conducive or incidental to the attainment of any of the above objectives.

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**President:** Meredith Ide, JP (8365 3049)

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**Treasurer:** Richard House, OAM (8552 4723)

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**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 members contribute who contribute.

**Distribution Organiser:** Shirley Sumerling (8364 3505)

**Program Subcommittee:**

Meredith Ide (Chair), Ally Preiss

**Plaques Subcommittee:**

Meredith Ide (Chair), Colin Harris and Geraldine Treloar

**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 7.30 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:** are \$37 family and \$25 single, due in April each year and may be sent to the Treasurer at the Society's address (above), paid at a monthly meeting or by a direct bank transfer.

## Front Cover:

*Coromandel Valley*  
1889

State Library of South Australia, B386

Murray's Biscuit Factory, Coromandel Valley, was an extensive complex of stone buildings set amongst trees on a hillside. It thrived during the nineteenth century and employed many local people. Some women even walked from Hahndorf once a week to work at the factory. It operated until 1900 when it closed after the death of Alexander Murray jnr.

### **Disclaimer**

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