N E W S L E T T E R

BURNSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President: Dr. R.G. Angove
332 0146
P.O. Box 152,
Glenside 5065.

Secretary: W.V. Mason F.R.A.I.A.
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PROGRAMME 1981.

At present all general meetings are in the Mayor's Parlor, Burnside Town Hall at 7.30pm. on the third Monday of each month.
There is no general meeting in December. Our first meeting for 1981 is on January 19. VIC REEVES FILM EVENING

Mr. Reeves has been collecting early movie films for many years and members will have the chance to see a 2 hour programme made up of his fascinating early South Australian films. Copies of several of his films have been deposited in the National Library, Canberra. This should be a most informative and entertaining evening.

February 16. Mrs. Claudia Quinn-Young
Oral History

March 16 Burnside Transport
April 20 Andrew Peake - Genealogy

YOUR SOCIETY By Roger Angove, President

WE HAVE NOW had three general meetings since the second public meeting (the inaugural meeting) in August adopted a constitution and elected a committee to manage the Society's affairs. Our two public meeting's aroused considerable interest - altogether 95 people attended one or both meetings and we received 10 apologies. When we circulated those people asking them to complete membership applications 75 did so up to the end of October and applications are still being received. As well several who did not attend either of those meetings have come to general meetings since then and have become members.

The three general meetings were well attended and reaction to the three programmes has been encouraging. The speakers were varied and so were their topics:-

In September, Police Sergeant Malcolm Schluter, secretary to the Police Historical Society spoke about the murder of Foot-Constable Hyde in 1909 and Commissioner Tolmer's career in the Police Force. October saw Ken Preiss speak on the landscape and flora of the foothills and the Southern Adelaide plains. and on 17th November, Elizabeth Warburton introduced Mr. & Mrs. George Greenham, and their friend Miss Clisby, and compered them through their reminiscences of the early days of Norton Summit and their farm at Home Park.

I am sure all who attended those meetings will agree they were very creditable offerings for this stage in our operations. Elsewhere are listed the programmes for the next four meetings. Our suppers have been enjoyed and our thanks are due to Mrs. Sheilagh Elder who volunteered to organize them.

August 1981 will bring the celebrations commemorating our city's 125th Anniversary and the release of the official history (by Elizabeth Warburton, a member of our Society) "The Paddocks Beneath: A History of Burnside 1856 - 1981". Our Society will naturally play a major role in the displays, etc. at that time and the committee has already asked, at general meeting, for members ideas, which can be forwarded to any member of the committee. Several ideas are already being considered and moves begun to organize an historical seminar in conjunction with the Department of Continuing Education (Dr. Derek Whitelock) of the University of Adelaide and perhaps the National Trust. Other bodies, such as schools, will also, it is expected, be presenting historical displays, etc., and the Corporation itself will possibly figure in this area.

Much work will, it is mooted, be undertaken in the coming year and it is hoped that members will give help in the various historical areas which interest them. The Secretary has begun a register of members interests and members are requested to let the committee know if they are interested in any specific field of historical research.

As President I trust you will find the coming year a rewarding one and on behalf of the committee wish you the compliments of the season.

COMMITTEE

President:	Dr. Roger G. Angove	332 0146
Vice President:	Geoff. A. Eastick	79 8609
Secretary:	William V. Mason	79 7739
Treasurer:	Ross A. Kelly	79 4340
Other Members:	Margaret (Mrs. A.B.) Black	332 4352 Burnside
	David R. Dickson	31 1268 Burnside
	(Mrs.) Beverley Golding	31 6933 Dulwich
	Sheena (Mrs. M.C.) Grant	31 1057 Burnside
	Elizabeth (Mrs.) Kwan	31 2689 Tusmore
	Margaret (Mrs. K.A.) Preiss	31 2233 Stonyfell

OUR CITY

1. Burnside the Beautiful By W.V. Mason

On one wall of Burnside Town Hall hangs a painting by W. Follen Bishop, dated 1915 and titled 'Burnside the Beautiful'. No one will cavil at the title but how did it originate? Was it just artistic license?

In 1866 Baillieres South Australian GAZETTEER and ROAD-GUIDE, compiled by Robt. P. Whitwork included:-
BURNSIDE (Co. Adelaide) is a small postal township, suburban to Adelaide, in the hundred of Adelaide and electoral district of E. Torrens. It is situated on a small watercourse called the Second creek, and is in an agricultural district where wheat is cultivated to a small extent and hay is principally grown. There are also numerous small vineyards and orchards. The nearest mine is at Glen Osmond, where a lead-mine exists, but is not now worked. The next places are Kensington, 1½ miles N.W., and Marryatville, about the same distance, the communications being by omnibus, twice a day. With Adelaide, 4 miles distant, the communication is also by omnibus. There is one hotel - the Burnside, where the omnibus stops. The surrounding country is slightly undulating except to the east where rise the Adelaide ranges. The geological formation is principally of schistoze and hard sandstone rocks, overlaid in some places by a thin stratum of limestone formed of decomposed coral reef. The soil is good and mostly taken up for gardens. The population is small.
BURNSIDE (Co. Adelaide) is a district council in the electoral district of East Torrens. It is under the control of a chairman, the present one being Mr. George R. Debney, of Burnside, and 4 councillors. The receipts and expenditure in this district council for 1865 were as follows:- Assessment £9642 - rate 1s. in the pound; rates collected £466 15s. 3d.; total receipts, £979 4s. 10d; office expenses and salaries £170.2s., expended on public works £712 11s. 8d.

The population numbers 1472 persons; the area is 10 square miles or 6400 acres; land under cultivation, 1966 acres; and number of dwelling houses, 215.

Although the gazetteer classed it as a township it was not then the conventional grouping of ¼ to ½ acre lots but consisted of a number of 2½ acre lots and some larger portions. Not until 15 December 1877 did that type of closer development begin with the cutting of three of the portions (Nos. 10,11,12) of an earlier 1849, subdivision, planned by architect T. Price of Hindley Street, instructed by auctioneer Nathaniel Hailes. The 1877 subdivision consisted of 38 x 1/5 acre lots along Glynburn (then Burnside) Road, High-, Gartrell- and John- Streets in lots approximately 53ft: x 150ft. (16m x 45m).

The 1877 auctioneers, W. Wadham & Co. then described the property-

On SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1877.

AT THREE O'CLOCK.

W. WADHAM & CO. will sell by auction—

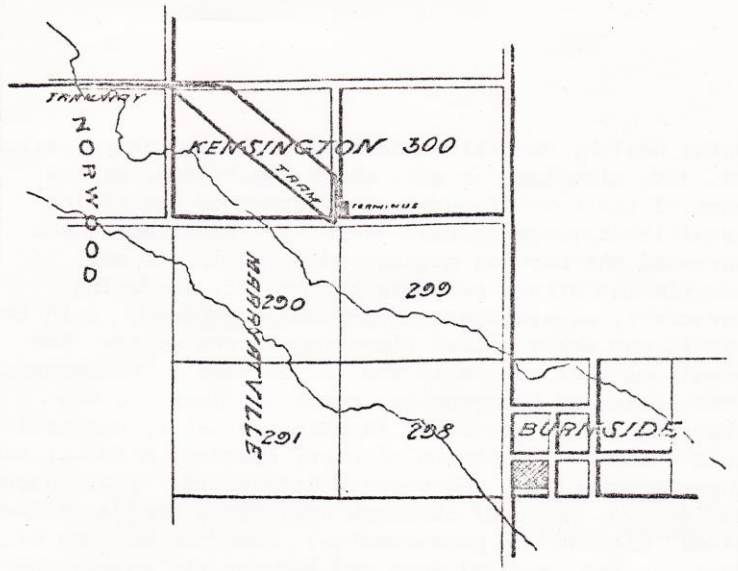
ON THE LAND,
BURNSIDE the BEAUTIFUL,
38 ALLOTMENTS,

Being the subdivision of Blocks 10, 11, and 12 in the original subdivision of Section No. 320, which was laid out twenty-eight years ago and named as above by that good ancient Auctioneer, N. Hailes.

These Allotments are within a mile of the Terminus of the Kensington Tramway, command a magnificent view of the plains and sea, and good water can be obtained by sinking, as proved by wells in the neighbourhood.

TERMS TO SUIT PURCHASERS.

For Plans, apply to the Auctioneers, or at the Burnside Hotel.



Around that time a long series of articles, written by Nathaniel Hailes, appeared in the S.A. Register under the heading "Reflections of a Septuagenarian", and in the issue of 13 February, 1878 he wrote of Burnside-

"_____a gentleman bought from the S.A. Company the section (No. 320) which had intermediatley been leased to another party, and placed it in my hands for subdivision as a township. Of course I immediately inspected the land with a view so to lay it off that as many allotments as possible might benefit from the running water.

With much surprise I perceived that since I first saw the section (in 1840) it had been cultivated and abandoned. European trees and shrubs were flourishing; and it might truly be said, adapting Goldsmith's line, that ----"once a garden smiled and still full many a garden flower grew wild".

But the altered conditions of the spot will best be gathered from the advertisement which announced the auction:- "BURNSIDE THE BEAUTIFUL" - A.B. (Nathaniel Hailes) feels real pleasure in introducing to all who

value health, fertility and beauty, Preliminary Section No. 320, situated one mile above Kensington, at the foot of the most picturesque mountain of the whole magnificent range nearest Adelaide. Excellent roads surround the section on all sides. A limpid and overflowing stream meanders through it, producing luxuriant, diversified and perennial verdure. Amid the wattle and other native flowering shrubs appear (the result of cultivation in the 'olden time') the gorgeous rose, clinging honeysuckle, climbing clematis, the fragrant briar, geraniums in wild profusion, nasturtiums, sweet-peas, garden-herbs of every species, a forest of Cape-Gooseberries, the wayward strawberry, figs, peaches, nectarines, vines of choicest varieties, apples, oranges, plums, almonds and pomegranates. Even the weeping willow inclines its graceful form and extends its valedictory arms over the stream which has nurtured it since the foundation of colony. New colonists should visit the spot before they send home their "first impressions", and old colonists will do well to become acquainted with a scene of beauty whose existence is unsuspected by most of them. The sea views are bounded only by the shore of the Gulf or the horizon and the neighbouring walks are romantic in the extreme. The sale will take place----etc.

"The foregoing inflated advertisement, elaborately displayed, produced the effect desired by announcers of auctions: it attracted public attention and drew a large company to the sale. The land was disposed of satisfactorily -- (although it was about a year before all of the lots available were sold)---and Burnside is now a populous as well as a pretty suburb of Adelaide".

AND THERE is our answer to how the term "BURNSIDE THE BEAUTIFUL" originated - not in "artistic" license but "poetic" license wrought from the breast of an auctioneer.