

November 2023

Final BHS Meeting for 2023: Monday 20 November

Our final meeting of the year is **not to be missed** and is in 3 parts:

1

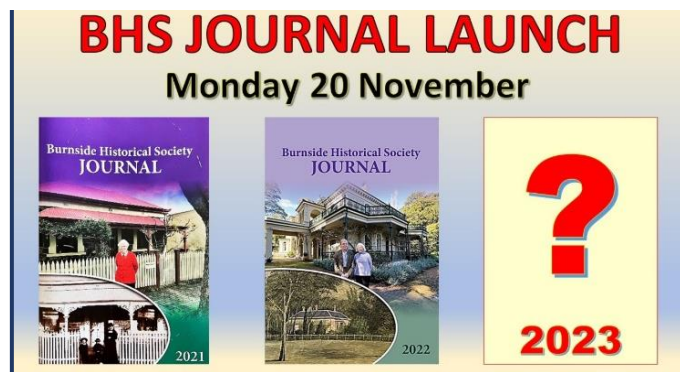


Speaker Topic: The Story of *Chiverton*-Past and Present.
Speakers: Anne Daniell, archivist at St Peters Girls School and Dr Geoffrey Bishop, local historian.

Our speakers will cover the story of *Chiverton* from 1880 when it was built as a grand two-storey bluestone family home in Stonyfell until its present day usage at the heart of St Peters Girls School. Reference will also be made to *Chiverton's* relationship with Ferguson Park and to the School's Museum.

2

The **Launch of the 2023 BHS Journal** will follow the speakers' talk and will include some special presentations. What will be on the Journal front cover this year? BHS members in attendance will receive their copy at the conclusion of the Launch.



3



A celebratory end-of-year supper of wine and cheese will conclude the evening.

Invite a friend and introduce them to a great night at BHS.

How do I receive my BHS Journal?

As outlined above the BHS 2023 Journal will be distributed at the November meeting. All financial members of BHS will receive a free copy of the Journal. To minimise postage costs (quite considerable) all members attending the November meeting will receive their copy on the night. If you are unable to attend, can you please contact a friend who is attending the meeting and arrange for them to collect it on your behalf.

BHS Programme 2024

For the past few months, the BHS Programme Subcommittee of Dianne Wilson, Liz Silz, Neville Lawrence, Judy Fander, and Bob Stace has been meeting to prepare the programme for next year. The Subcommittee hopes to have some details of the programme available at our November meeting. Speakers are being organised for our 10 meetings, several outings are being planned, along with guided walks and speakers during the SA History Festival in May.

Please keep Wednesday 17 January free for lunch together at the Kensington Hotel.

October Meeting Report: William Wyatt (1804-1806)

Anne McCutcheon, a governor of the Wyatt Trust, gave a very informative talk at our October meeting on the influential life of William Wyatt and the legacy he left to benefit needy South Australians. As a young apothecary and doctor, Wyatt and his wife Julia arrived as very early colonists on the *John Renwick* in February 1837. He had been the ship's surgeon on the voyage to Adelaide. Besides establishing a medical practice, Wyatt was an early investor in the purchase of land with one of his several extensive holdings of 96 acres situated in Burnside near the entrance to Waterfall Gully. The Wyatts built their town home there in the early 1840s and named it *Kurralta*.



Wyatt had extensive involvement in the life of Adelaide; for a short period as Protector of Aborigines, he was a magistrate, Justice of the Peace, and had connections to the Botanic Gardens, Adelaide Hospital, St Peters College, Pulteney Grammar School, Holy Trinity Church, and SA Savings Bank to name but a few. A person of considerable influence and affluence.



William and Julia's children all predeceased them and so before his death Wyatt established the Wyatt Benevolent Institute (now known as the Wyatt Trust) to administer his estate for the benefit of South Australians in need. The Trust is still a very active organisation today and since its inception has distributed over \$70m in grants.

BHS Outing to historic sites at Grange.

The 26 participants enjoyed perfect weather for our recent outing to historic sites at Grange. Our first stop was at the *Grange*, the former home of explorer and early Adelaide colonist Charles Sturt and his family.



After a quick "cuppa" on arrival we were led through the restored home, a gallery exhibiting some of Sturt's artefacts and telling the story of his explorations, and the gardens which had once been part of a working farm. All agreed that our guides brought the home and its story to life. Well worth a revisit.

Then it was the short drive to the Grange Beach for a guided stroll along the foreshore to view a range of historic structures and buildings established in the period 1880-1900. Most impressive were the *Marines*, the luxury 3 storeyed terraced houses completed in 1883. (at right)

We then moved on to a sociable lunch together at the Henly Beach Hotel with views of a wide, white, sandy beach, with the sea as calm as a millpond, and all set below a cloudless blue sky. A fitting finale to another most enjoyable BHS outing.



Bob Stace Awarded Honorary Life Membership

At the recent October meeting our Acting President Margaret Ford awarded Bob Stace with Honorary Life Membership of the BHS. Margaret provided the following citation for Bob's award.



The BHS Committee and members are proud to award Bob Stace an Honorary Life Membership. Bob, and wife Pam, first joined the Society in 2016. Bob came with excellent credentials, as former president of the Pioneers Association. From the very beginning Bob was active and innovative in what he contributed and initiated. In 2017, and 2019 he was a deft quizmaster, decked out in mortar board, for two annual fun nights of quizzing. I met Bob in the History Room, one day in 2018, and encouraged him to join the committee because the numbers were a bit 'wobbly'. We needed his skills, and he left that room as coopted onto the committee, where he has stayed ever since. As a key member of the original Journal committee, Bob has continued to work to complete the third edition which will be published next month, November 2023.

Former President Derk Bransbury acknowledged Bob's contributions in 2021 with an appreciation award. Bob was even trained as a Covid Marshall when we needed such people. In the year of the Burnside Primary School 150th celebrations Bob was instrumental in working with the teachers and students to prepare a grand celebration to a packed audience in the Burnside Ballroom. Further, he has been a key part of the annual participation in preparing and executing the History Festival program. Stepping in at the last minute in 2022, when we lost a speaker due to Covid, Bob gave an entertaining talk about Col. Willaim Light. Organising tours is his forte – whether a walking tour of the Wesleyan Cemetery at Magill, or at Port Adelaide, or Lochend, or Grange, or Government House. Bob took on the monthly role of preparing the Bulletin to keep members up to date with events and news. He volunteers in the History Room to assist local community inquirers who seek research information. The new Mining Subcommittee has advanced with Bob's guidance. While he is not alone in these roles, he works as a committed team member to achieve our Society's goals. Bob has provided sound guidance and support for both Derek and myself, in our roles as President. Every society needs an active, dedicated, approachable member like Bob Stace. Congratulations on being acknowledged for your work.

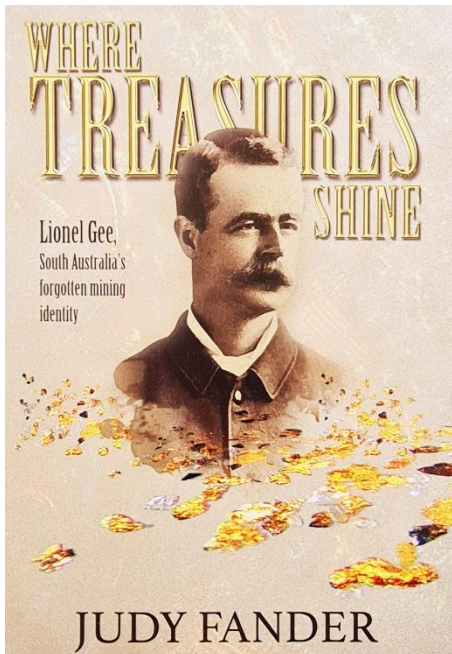
Mines Project Making Progress



The BHS Mines Subcommittee has established a positive relationship with the City of Burnside in regard to the conservation and preservation of Wheal Watkins and this has resulted in two significant developments in the past few weeks.

1. The Council organised an engineering inspection of Wheal Watkins in late October. The report from this inspection will provide the Council and BHS with information on how best to conserve the entrances to the Mine.
2. The Council has agreed to make two short videos to tell the story of Wheal Watkins and the mines of Glen Osmond. BHS and the Council will be working collaboratively in the making of the videos. Script writing has already commenced.

You are invited to a book launch.



BHS member Judy Fander will be launching her new book “Where Treasures Shine: Lionel Gee, South Australia’s forgotten mining identity” at the Burnside Library on Monday December 11 from 2.30 - 3.30pm.

The book is a biography of Lionel Gee, with a substantial component devoted to his artist wife Laura. The book has a local flavour as the Gees lived their long, married life in Burnside.

A few years ago, and whilst still undertaking research for her book, Judy spoke on this topic at one of our meetings. This should whet our appetite for the finished product. The launch will be advertised on the City of Burnside’s website and bookings are required.

The author talks and book launches at the Library are always enjoyable and interesting occasions so make a booking and support Judy as she launches her new book.

Up the Track Slice

Why is there a recipe in the Bulletin you ask? This recipe is taken from the book “Coaches, Carriages and Carts” written by our recent speaker Peter Foster.

The story goes that because of its simplicity, speed of baking, and good taste, it was the standby “welcome with a cuppa” for unexpected guests arriving in a horse drawn cart at an outback homestead. Liz Silz thought she would put it to the test and provided it as morning tea at our recent Journal and Programme Subcommittee meetings. It tasted so good that the editor was persuaded to include it in this Bulletin. [He enjoyed it too!]

In a large bowl place:

- 2 cups SR flour
- 2 cups coconut
- 2 cups mixed fruit of choice
- 1.5 cups raw sugar
- 1.5 cups milk



Mix well. Mixture should be moist.

Line lamington tin with aluminium foil. Spoon in mixture and smooth top.

Bake at 180 degrees Celsius for approx. 50 mins. Until golden.

Remove from oven and cool.

Peel away foil and cut into squares. Freezes well.

From the Editor

Well done if you reached this far in your reading of the Bulletin!

I have successfully limited the recent Bulletins to a maximum of 2 pages but there was much content available for this edition, so we ended up with 4 pages.

I plan to produce a Bulletin in December and January to keep members connected during the holiday season.