BURNSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

The Monthly BHS Bulletin

April 2024

THIS MONTH'S MEETING: Monday 15 April

Our April meeting will be in two parts and will feature the regular monthly meeting with guest speaker to be followed by our AGM. Our speaker for the monthly meeting will be Gary Petts who will present *Remembering significant Australian Aviators,* especially Rose Park resident John Downing who was shot down with a missile over Vietnam. (See image to the right.) Please refer to the meeting flyer on page 3 for further details of the topic.

All members of the Burnside Historical Society are invited to attend the AGM of the Society on Monday 15 April immediately following the conclusion of the April General Meeting. Documents for the AGM including the Agenda, Minutes of the 2023 AGM, the Acting President's report, and Committee Election, details will be forwarded to you within the next week. The Annual Financial Statements won't be available until the AGM as the BHS financial year does not close until 31 March and they then need to be checked by our auditor.

MARCH MEETING: SA's Institutes, Significant Community Centres

We welcomed 23 visitors who joined our 45 members for a successful and informative March meeting. Joelie Hancock spoke on the interesting topic of South Australia's Institutes which performed such a significant role in over 350 SA communities from the 1850s to the latter part of the 20th century. We learnt that these often impressive looking buildings were the cultural, educational, social, and sporting centres of our suburbs and country towns. Joelie's stories focussed on those 11 Institutes which were built east of Adelaide. Joelie and her husband Ken have established a comprehensive website which provides all the information you need on this most interesting topic:

Kensington & Norwood Institute established 1872

Institutes Of South Australia – disseminating useful knowledge (institutessa.com)

WE MEET HANNAH

During our March meeting Michelle Toft, the current History and Cultural Officer at the City of Burnside (3 days per week), introduced the recently appointed Hannah Shaw (on the left in the photo) who will take up the other 2 days of this full time 1.0 position. Hannah, who is highly credentialled and experienced, has come to us from Canberra to job share with Michelle. As a society we are very appreciative that the City of Burnside has maintained this important full time position.

THE WHEAL WATKINS VIDEO: How can you watch it?

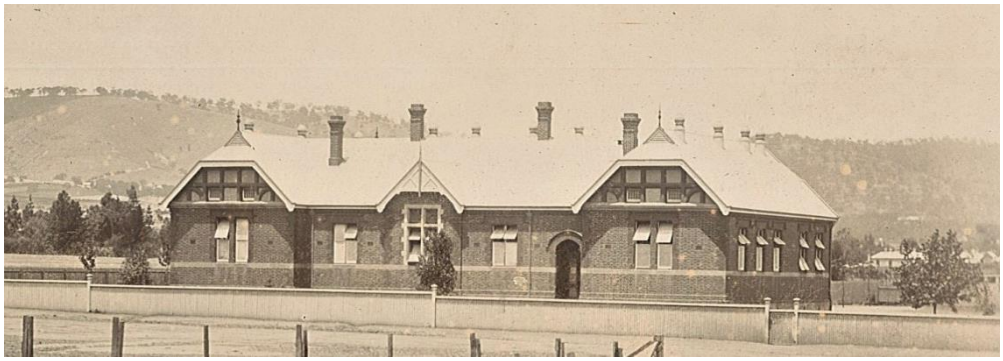
The recently produced video of the Wheal Watkins Mine was shown at our March meeting. The video which was developed with the support of the City of Burnside, and is part of our current Mines Project, can be viewed on your computer or smart phone by googling "Wheal Watkins Heritage Mine 1843, South Australia"

MAY MEETING: *Food Glorious Food*

Our meeting on 20 May will be part of the BHS contribution to SA's May History Festival. Dr Kerrie Davies will speak on the topic of *Food Glorious Food at Rose Park Primary School and in its local community since 1893.* This will provide a fascinating insight into the food consumed by students and their families over this period and contrast it with today. Many of us will have memories (maybe somewhat hazy?) of the lunches we took to primary school in the 40s and 50s and the occasional "treats " from the school tuck shop.

This is an official SA History Festival event, but BHS members will not need to book. Non-members/visitors should book on 0422 705 916.

Rose Park School in the mid-1890s



SA HISTORY FESTIVAL

Official programmes are now available from Drakes supermarkets and online for this year's May History Festival https://festival.history.sa.gov.au/
Now is the time to check out the programme of over 500 events and to make your bookings for what promises to be a busy and enjoyable month for history lovers.

BHS History Festival Events

Once again, we will be an active contributor to the History Festival with our five events. Our May meeting is detailed above and the other four are listed briefly below.

1. Guided Walk of Dulwich: "Revealing the Secrets of Dulwich" with Polly Dundon (Sat 4 May, 10 -12noon)

2. Guided Walk: "Eastwood: Burnside's smallest suburb" with Ally Preiss (Tues 7 May, 10am – 12noon)

3. Talk in the Burnside Library "The Bald Hills of Burnside" with speaker: Colin Harris (Thurs 9 May, 6.30pm – 8.00pm)

4. Talk and Walk: "The Glen Osmond Mines with a focus on Wheal Watkins" commencing with a talk in the Burnside Library and then a walk at the Mine. (Mon 13 May, 10-12.30pm)

You can find full details, including booking arrangements, in the official History Festival Programme on pages 32 and 33.

BURNSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

You are invited to our meeting on

Monday 15 April at 7.30pm

This meeting is in 2 parts:

- **7.30-8.30pm General Meeting with Speaker**
- **8.30-9.00pm The BHS Annual General Meeting**

Shot down over Vietnam

Speaker: Gary Petts
Topic: Remembering significant Australian Aviators

The first successful flight of a heavier-than-air flying machine took place in Australia 130 years ago this year, almost a decade before the first powered flight by the Wright brothers. Australian inventor Lawrence Hargrave connected four box kites, added a seat, and flew 4.8 metres off the ground. Two World Wars and conflicts since have seen the rapid development of aviation and emergence of many significant aviators. Many towns in SA and local government areas of Adelaide were the birthplace or have links to these men and women and Burnside is no exception. Did you know you have a Rose Park resident who was awarded the DFC and a US DFC and was the pilot of the only RAAF aircraft to be shot down by a surface to air missile over Vietnam? This talk is about researching and remembering these heroes.

AGM

- ❖ Election of Committee and Office Bearers
- ❖ Presentation of Annual Report 2023/24
- ❖ Presentation of audited Financial Statement 2023/24

Venue: the Burnside Community Centre Hall, (adjacent to Burnside Library)
401 Greenhill Road, Tusmore. Enter car park from Fisher Street off Portrush Road.
Non- members - a $2 donation is appreciated.

Burnside Historical Society actively promotes the history and heritage of the City of Burnside. We conduct monthly meetings which feature interesting presentations covering the history of the City of Burnside and South Australia. Further information may be found on our website www.burnsidehistory.org.au and on our Facebook page @burnside history or by telephoning 0422 705 916