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**Cover image:** Nurses attend rally in Victoria Square, 6 November 1986. Courtesy The Advertiser.

**Back cover:** Nurses at Cancer and Consumptive Home, near Botanic Gardens. HTSA Glass Negatives Collection GN 1318.

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first issue of History Matters for 2006.

You will see as you work your way through the magazine, 2006 looks like being a great year for history in South Australia. Since it is also the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the History Trust, we are doing our best to ensure that. Plans are already well advanced for SA History Week in the last week of May. This year History Week is combined with the launch of SA Open Heritage, offered in conjunction with the Heritage Branch of the Department for Environment and Heritage. SA Open Heritage aims to increase awareness of South Australia's built heritage, with special tours of significant places and access to a range of buildings not normally open to the public. If you or your group would like to participate in either History Week, or Open Heritage, please get in touch with us soon. The closing date for inclusion in the History Week program is 3rd March 2006 and so far it is looking very impressive.

Also included with the magazine is the brochure for this year's State History Conference. The conference has the slightly tongue-in-cheek title *In History We Trust* – part reference to the Trust's own milestone in 2006, part review of the many and varied histories produced in the past two decades. Kate Walsh outlines some highlights of the conference program in this issue. I think I can say quite sincerely that it is a terrific program, packed with interest and spiced with a little controversy just to keep it interesting. Thank you to all who offered papers. We were inundated, which is very gratifying.

In August we hope to offer another in our sequence of themed conferences – digging down into a defined period. We have chosen to focus this time on South Australia during and after the First World War, following our successful exhibition Gallipoli: the South Australian Story. Once again we will offer a broad spectrum of papers over two or three days and attendance will be free. More details will follow in subsequent issues and on our website. Meanwhile we continue to work on a publication drawing on papers delivered to the Adelaide Snapshots conference last year. Almost all papers have now been received and the editors are hard at work. Watch this space....

All in all, it should be a very busy year for all of us. I hope that you can join us at some stage in celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.

#### **Margaret Anderson**

Director, History Trust of South Australia



After World War II Australian nurses were honoured as heroines who had bravely risked their lives in an effort to care for wounded and dying servicemen. In South Australia much publicity surrounded the local nurses who were killed whilst carrying out their duties and those who returned from Japanese prisoner of war camps. When peace returned many nurses therefore hoped that their wartime service would be repaid by a grateful government that would improve their civilian salaries and working conditions.

During the post-war years successive groups of nurses called upon various state and federal governments to increase their pay and to shorten the minimum 44 hour working week. But most nurses were reluctant to back up these demands by taking industrial action. Instead older nurses entreated young women not to let the long hours, poor pay, exacting work and rigid discipline deter them from entering the profession, reasoning:

These things will right themselves, but for the present, the satisfaction of a difficult and arduous job well done will be sufficient.

But 'things' did not right themselves until nurses recognised that no-one was willingly going to give them power nor would they find someone else to fight their industrial battles for them. By the 1980s it was clear to even the most cursory observer of the South Australian health system that neither the introduction of the 40 hour week, nor changes in the way that nurses were managed had arrested the high levels of dissatisfaction noted amongst hospital nurses.

The Australian Nursing Federation had expanded during the 1970s and joined the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) in 1978. These links were further reinforced within South Australia when a progressive leadership was elected with Marilyn Beaumont as Branch Secretary.

In 1981 several senior charge nurses at Flinders Medical Centre wrote an official memo to Matron Aileen Monck, Director of Nursing, stating what many of their colleagues felt:

**Above:** Sister Shirley Heasman's Office, Ward D8, Royal Adelaide Hospital 18 May 1967. Photo: Private Collection Shirley Heasman



**Above:** Student nurse cleaning wheels - Ritchie Ward, Royal Adelaide Hospital c1957. Photo: Private Collection Shirley Heasman.

Nursing has been a downtrodden profession for years and we have had enough, but what is it that makes nurses so afraid to stand up and be counted? ... We are not prepared to sit back any more.

## ...NURSING HAS BEEN A DOWNTRODDEN PROFESSION FOR YEARS...

Some minor concessions were made to nurses in various hospitals over the next few years but usually only after the intervention of the Australian Nursing Federation. Nurses quickly learnt that pleas on behalf of an individual or a group met with little success without the involvement of the Union.

Shortages of hospital nurses and cuts to public hospital budgets continued throughout Australia into the early 1980s. In response to this crisis many hospital administrators were forced to close wards and the number of patients waiting for admission increased. When nurses began to tentatively explore taking some form of industrial action it was enthusiastically reported in the nursing and national press. Far from criticising the nurses for taking this stance, many articles appeared to vindicate their moral claims with statements like:

Most nurses bitterly resent having to take industrial action to achieve the right standard of patient care. They are doing their best and are very concerned and frustrated that they can't give proper care.

## ...WAGES AND NURSING CONDITIONS REMAINED POOR...

But wages and nursing conditions remained poor. In February 1984 the ANF conducted a national poll and, with support of 65.3% of members, the 'no strike' clause was deleted from its Constitution. Doubts that nurses would ever use this as an industrial weapon were quickly dispelled when nurses in Western Australia and Victoria initiated short strikes.

In South Australia, the ANF showed it was capable of winning a major concession when a 38 hour week was introduced for all public sector nurses. However, job satisfaction surveys showed that levels of stress amongst nurses were increasing and high numbers were leaving the profession.

Against this background, a new career structure and salary claim were lodged with the South Australian Health Commission by the ANF. At the same time a new public awareness campaign was launched to bring attention to the plight of nurses and their patients. It was strategically important not to alienate the local communities that had thus far supported them. By now the ANF had a clear campaign which included the need to obtain a new career structure coupled with an increase in pay and conditions of work.

The South Australian Government agreed to finance a limited six-month trial of the new career structure and pay awards. An independent evaluation was conducted and found that the career structure, coupled with pay increases, had been successful in increasing the job satisfaction of the nurses involved in it.

## FIVE THOUSAND NURSES RALLIED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE...

As a way of demonstrating newly-found industrial strength the ANF organised a major rally in Adelaide to put pressure on the government to implement the career structure immediately. Five thousand nurses rallied from all parts of the state in Victoria Square and marched beside the South Australian Health Commission chanting and carrying placards with their demands.

The Advertiser reported that the march was enthusiastically received by onlookers as office workers cheered and clapped the 'procession' as nurses wound their way around the central business district. Marilyn Beaumont on behalf of the ANF stated:

South Australian nurses will never be the same again after proving by their first such rally that they are capable of demonstrating solidarity over an issue.

The Editor of the Mount Gambier paper was also sympathetic to the local nurses stating:

We have expected too much from them with too little recognition.

One month later the pay increases and new career structures were ratified by the South Australian Industrial Commission. It should be noted that the judgement was made on the grounds that the equal pay principle made 14 years earlier, in 1972, had not been applied to nursing wage rates as it was a female dominated profession.

In 1987 South Australian nurses proved that united behind their Union they could achieve the gains which had eluded their predecessors.

### Sally-Anne Nicholson

Senior Project Officer, Children's Youth and Women's Health Service.

This paper is drawn from Sally-Anne Nicholson's doctoral thesis "Angels with Attitude".

# collected words

### By Jan Gaebler

The Adelaide Festival will soon be upon us and a major highlight is the world's most congenial literary festival Writers' Week, which will unfold from March 5-10 in the Pioneer Women's Memorial Gardens - a few steps across the Torrens Parade Ground from the HTSA headquarters!

The festival is free and gives readers a chance to rub shoulders with distinguished national and international literary figures - including historians. A few authors to look out for are:

### **Stuart Macintyre**

The publication of **The History Wars** sparked months of intense debate a few years ago about the way historians, politicians and others choose to interpret the Australian story. As a result, the book was reissued with a new afterword by Stuart Macintyre, looking at the critical and public response to the book and the impact of its publication. Based at the University of Melbourne, Professor Macintyre's other books include **A Concise History of Australia**, and **A History** 

for a Nation. He is a former member of the National Library of Australia Council, and a great contributor to our cultural memory.

### Simon Nasht

Simon Nasht's book **The Last Explorer** is one of those books that is selling by word of mouth and is already into a publisher reprint because everyone who reads it promptly recommends it to a friend!

The book details the exploits of Hubert Wilkins truly the last, and one of the greatest, explorers. Born in South Australia, he spent most of his life out of the country - but always remained an Australian. He travelled through every continent, and was pioneer of aviation. He survived crashes and disasters, firing squads and sabotage, living long enough to be honoured by kings, presidents and dictators. He was a front-line photographer in World War 1 - and was twice decorated. He took the first ever film of battle, and took the first moving images from an aircraft. He was the first man to fly across the Arctic Ocean, the first to fly in the Antarctic - and the first to fly from America to Europe across the unknown Arctic (the New York Times called this 'the greatest flight in history'). In the later years of this life, he did work for the USA military and intelligence - he was buried at sea at the North Pole by the US Navy in 1958.

# The Barwell Boys:

# TRUE BATTLERS

In this issue John Davis continues his article on the Barwell Boys, focusing on their experiences in South Australia.

On their arrival at Port Adelaide, Barwell Boys were taken straight to what was formerly the Destitute Asylum in Kintore Avenue, Adelaide, where their group was photographed. Within 48 hours boys were dispatched to farmers. A boy might have travelled by rail to some isolated siding to be met by his future employer and with whom he continued his journey, perhaps by horse and dray. On arrival he was introduced to his host family and shown to his quarters. More than likely, conditions were Spartan, but possibly not much worse than the rudimentary accommodation he had experienced in Britain. At least one boy, however, had to live in a shanty outhouse without toilet facilities. Furthermore, there was no guarantee that a boy would be placed in work of his first choice, and he might have been indentured to a dairy farmer, a cereal farmer, a mixed farmer, a pastoralist, an orchardist, a market gardener or the proprietor of a fruit block. He might have worked anywhere from the Adelaide Hills to the Mid North, Eyre Peninsula, Yorke Peninsula, the mallee lands in the east of the state, the Riverland, the South East, the Fleurieu Peninsula or even on a pastoral lease in the Far North. Certainly, boys' situations and living conditions varied from satisfactory to appalling. Little more than good fortune determined whether or not a boy was placed with a kind family that provided an appropriate situation. Some families did, some did not.



**Above:** Some Barwell Boys were placed on desolate and isolated properties such as this. HTSA Glass Negatives Collection GN 166.

Loneliness and the lack of other boys' company were problems...

In the event, many Barwell Boys did not enjoy their experiences and criticised the program. Loneliness and the lack of other boys' company were problems. Boys complained about their wages and working conditions. For example, one boy at Poonindie, north of Port Lincoln, was aggrieved that he had to sign up to work for three years on a farm he had never seen, for a farmer he had never met and for a starting wage of 12 shillings and sixpence a week. His wage rose to £1 a week in his final year. Another claimed that he was forced to work from 5.00 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. for 19 shillings and that he was doing the work of an adult who could command £4 a week. On the other hand, Alec Best did nothing for two months other than drive his employer's children to and

from school. He was bored and could not please a boss who never encouraged him. Another boy complained to the Director that he was hit and kicked by his boss, though subsequent investigations cleared the employer of the kicking charge. In a letter to Director Ryan, one boy's neighbour supported his grievances. This boy was worked very hard, had to eat alone and lived in a leaky room without a fire for warmth, the room being next to a haystack.



**Above:** A farmhouse of the early 1900s. HTSA Glass Negatives Collection GN 342.

### ...EMPLOYERS COMPLAINED OF BOYS WETTING THEIR BEDS...

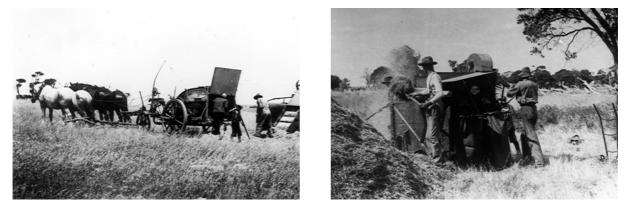
Differences between the values and habits of boys and their employers sometimes created problems. South Australia's reputation for religious freedom attracted many Dissenters, including conservative, God-fearing and puritanical farmers. In his application one farmer wrote that 'I would prefer a protestant Methodist if possible, one of temperate habits, [1] would much prefer an abstainer and a non smoker, being so myself I always like those around me to be so...'. Some boys who came from less restrictive family backgrounds failed to live up to such expectations and had miserable experiences. One boy was miserable for another reason. He had no complaint with the way his host family treated him, but he wrote to Director Ryan asking to be moved. The family was of German descent and this proved too much for the young boy. He had lost his father and three relatives in the Great War and so his own '....racial prejudice was bitter'. Ryan did move the boy, and wrote to the family explaining why. It must have been a

painful reminder of the recent persecution such families had experienced during the war. At least two employers complained of boys wetting their beds. Both complainants viewed this as a bad reflection upon the boys concerned, there being no apparent expression of sympathy or awareness that it may have been a symptom of a deeper malaise.

The Department of Immigration was flexible, however, and did respond to situations that had become unviable or fractious. Ryan's first inclination was to encourage boys to stick it out, but if things did not improve he arranged transfers or approved arrangements that had already been effected in the field. Some boys experienced both good and bad situations. As we have seen above, Alec Best's initial placement at Avon, near Balaklava, proved most unsatisfactory. When his employer moved to a new farm in the Murray Mallee, Alec had to drive a ten-horse team for ten days and it rained from Mount Pleasant to Parilla. This was too much for Alec and he resigned, making his own way back to Avon. As Alec had arranged before his trip to Parilla, local returned soldier, David Crichton, took him in. He and his wife treated him like a son and Alec spent three fruitful years working at Avon, and completed his apprenticeship.

### Others had favourable experiences...

Others had favourable experiences. A Mr Alexander, interviewed on 4 May 1989, came from Warwick where he had worked in large gardens. He was fortunate to be apprenticed to an orchardist at Port Elliott, but when the owner experienced financial difficulties he moved to Renmark and went fruit picking. The families who employed Alexander were kind and generous; the work was familiar to him and after completing his apprenticeship he worked in the Lenswood district. Later he joined the Australian Army. At the end of World War II Alexander purchased land at Lenswood and ran his own orchard until ill health forced his retirement. For him, the scheme achieved its aims. Both he and South Australia benefited.



**Above:** Men working hand and machine-driven winnowing machines, 1920. Barwell Boys may have done this type of work during harvest. At first they were paid double during harvest. The government rescinded this, however, claiming that it was impossible to define the term 'harvest', given the variety of agricultural and horticultural jobs in which the boys were engaged. HTSA Glass Negatives Collection GN 11584.

Statistics do not show the human side of the scheme, but of the 1,444 Barwell Boys, 1,213, or 84 per cent, completed their apprenticeships. It would be wrong, however, to conclude that all apprentice boy farmers enjoyed an agreeable and useful learning experience. The fact that 467, or 32.3 per cent of boys were transferred from at least one employer to another suggests that many boys survived the rigours of the system, rather than revelled in it. This alone speaks highly of the qualities of the boys.

...boy migrant schemes were advertised through the British Boy Scout movement...

From their inception in 1913, the boy migrant schemes were advertised through the British Boy Scout movement. This suggests that scouts epitomised the type of boy favoured by the authorities. Thus, boys were to 'be prepared' to face difficulties with manliness, initiative and selfreliance. They were to be law-abiding and industrious young men prepared to serve the Empire; prepared to sally forth into the colonies and give the fledgling Australia a helping hand, while at the same time advancing their own prospects in life. Richard Almond arrived on SS Largs Bay on 14 June 1922 and may have been a model apprentice. A boy scout, he had a most favourable reference from the chaplain of the Thirty-third Camberwell Scouts. He also had two excellent references from his schools. Of the boys' letters perused by this writer, Almond's stood out as easily the most articulate and well crafted. He was keen to try his hand at sheep farming, but was placed on a market garden at Gumeracha. After his initial disappointment he adapted well and made a success of his apprenticeship. Percy Liddiard who came from Surrey and worked on a fruit block at Berri won high praise from his employer. When his boss gave up his block, the resourceful Liddiard paid out the balance of his passage money, procured an early release from the scheme and took permanent employment pruning, picking and ploughing for different growers in the district. FS Alford thought so highly of Robert Arbuckle that he wrote about him in glowing terms to the Hon. GF Jenkins, MP He commented that Arbuckle was educated at King's College, London, a total abstainer and of the calibre that '...we want out here.' Alford had known him for over three years and in that time Arbuckle had '...proved the grit of which he was made.' Following his apprenticeship, Arbuckle had taken up 38 square miles of undeveloped grazing country on the Far West Coast. He also had a share in a 600 acre crop near Cleve.

Not all Barwell Boys lived up to these standards; 84 absconded from the scheme, though some had good cause. One boy absconded, leaving debts of £3/10/6 with a storekeeper and 11 shillings and 10 pence for repairs to a motorcycle. Director Ryan terminated his apprenticeship.

Other absconders failed to return from holidays. Another failed to return from church, taking the farmer's dog with him and leaving his poor horse tethered in the churchyard for 24 hours. Yet another absconded when he failed to appear for a dental appointment. A report on one boy stated that 'this youth was most unsatisfactory during his sojourn in the Scheme. Each employer in turn was glad to be rid of him. This Department has failed to trace him either here or at Home. His parents have not heard of him for nearly three years.' Employers complained of things such as boys' bad language, lack of personal hygiene, untrustworthiness, lies, idleness, lack of thrift, ill treatment of animals, incompetence and unsuitability for farm work. The Department had to remove one difficult boy from his employment and send him to the Salvation Army Home in the hope that he would be reformed.

...many Barwell Boys came through with 'British pluck'...

On taking office in 1924 the Gunn Labor Government lost no time in abandoning the Barwell scheme, claiming that '...the proportion of failures...was so great that it stood condemned.' It is impossible to assess quantitatively the Barwell Boys' long-term contribution to the economic and cultural life of South Australia. Many stayed on, married local women and established families. Some became successful farmers, while others found work as farm labourers. No doubt a few failed and returned to Britain. Boys' experiences were not uniformly good or bad, but varied, even for individual boys who worked under different employers. Barwell Boys shared the same sorts of hardships, privations and rudimentary living conditions experienced by most South Australians who made their living from agriculture, horticulture or pastoralism in the 1920s. It was tough going, but many Barwell Boys came through with 'British pluck'.

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**John Davis** is a volunteer with the History Trust of South Australia. He is a retired History teacher and author of Principles and Pragmatism: A History of Girton, King's College and Pembroke School, (1991), Pembroke School Council, Adelaide.



# An OVERVIEW of MEDICAL COLLECTIONS in ADELAIDE

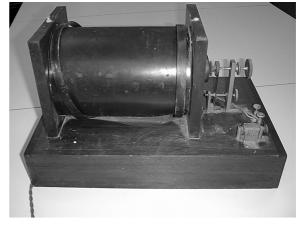
The medical heritage items in South Australia are many, varied and often document unique hallmarks of medical history and development. Unfortunately they are stored at numerous sites.

Each teaching and most private hospitals have valuable items representing individual themes and topics, such as syringes, radiology equipment, first aid splints and surgical instruments. Possibly the first X-ray of a hand taken in Australia and the donation letter from Sir Mark Oliphant is located in the Radiology Department of the Flinders Medical Centre.



**Above left:** X-ray of hand. First X-ray taken in South Australia.

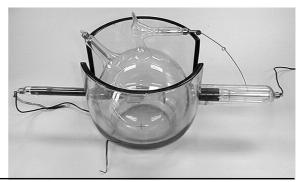
**Above right:** Letter from Sir Mark Oliphant donating same.



Above: Professor Bragg's original Ruhmkoff coil.

One of the earliest X-ray machines and vacuum tubes are held at the Women and Children's Hospital. Professor Bragg's Ruhmkoff coil and his tubes are preserved in the Physics Department of the University of Adelaide.

Below: X-ray tube.



The Society would be most grateful for any inquiries or comments.

Contact details:The South Australian Medical Heritage Society IncC/- The Department of Surgery,<br/>Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woodville Road, WOODVILLE SA 5011<br/>Messages: Tony Slavotinek 8271 70578

There is a large collection of early mobile X-ray machines (1930-1970) stored at the Glenside Hospital. The letters and newspaper articles reporting the role of FH Faulding and Co Ltdin bringing the first X-ray tubes to South Australia are in the Faulding's Museum of Mayne Pharmaceuticals at Salisbury.



**Above:** Part of a collection of old (1930-1970) X-ray equipment stored at Glenside Hospital.

Similarly scattered are other important items such as early syringes and surgical instruments. An 18th century ship's surgeon's kit is presently in a private collection at Middleton.



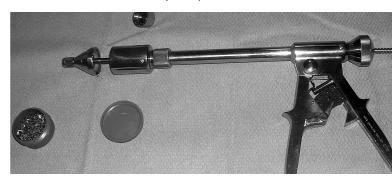
**Above:** Ship's doctor's kit from the same collection.



**Above:** Boxed set of 19th century immobilising splints for various limbs and sizes.

A unique collection of early (19th century) first aid splints for fractured limbs is located at the St. John Museum, Unley.

Some of the first Electrocardiographs recorded on charcoal blackened discs by Don Both and Professor Kerr Grant in the 1930s are stored at the QEH. The first surgical intestinal stapler used in Australia is stored at Calvary Hospital.



Above: Intenstinal stapler stored at Calvary Hospital.

The South Australian Medical Heritage Society (SAHMS) was established and incorporated in 1983. Its persisting aim is to establish a dedicated medical heritage museum which could collect and exhibit, even if temporarily loaned, such items which are relevant to the development of medical science and practice. The museum itself may take some time. Meanwhile, in order to provide a realistic groundwork for such a process the society, with the help of the History Trust of South Australia has created a listing protocol to locate and document such important items. The intention is to provide a record/listing of valuable items which are scattered over South Australia. The society would appreciate it if archivists and curators of various metropolitan and country hospitals would make contact to suggest suitable heritage items for listing. Some items currently listed have been illustrated. The objective is not acquisition but listing and documentation.

# **POLITICS & PUBLIC HEALTH** *in* Late Nineteenth Century - Adelaide

The warm, wet summer of 1870-71, with its 'noxious smells' and 'the seeds of very dangerous maladies' signalled the fact that nothing had been done in South Australia to ensure the preservation of the public's health.

## ...a 'city of stenches'...

Despite a fine climate and the fact that the city was still not densely populated, Adelaide's sanitary status became an urgent concern for the city corporation, members of the medical profession and the public. If, as one correspondent to The Register put it in 1873, something is not done effectively to aid the suppression of nuisances, the summer would be heralded, not by 'the sweet scents of flowers, but by the foul and offensive odours' of the 'Adelaide bouquet.' President of the Board of Health, Dr. Horatio Thomas Whittle, believed that the 'offensive smells' of Adelaide's terraces and streets were comparable with the worst of the slums of Birmingham. Sanitary conditions in Adelaide were either disregarded completely or 'left to the caprice of the inhabitants'. The smells from closets, stagnant water, and decomposing matters, commented Whittle, were justification for Adelaide's description as a 'city of stenches'. Letters in local newspapers urged immediate government action and called upon the press to keep the subject before the legislature.

While most Adelaideans accepted that something should be done, sound public health policy was not necessarily an issue without controversy. The use of coercion in health policy caused a division among the medical profession, legislators and social theorists. South Australia's first Public Health Act in 1873 provided for street cleaning, rubbish disposal, the seizure of unwholesome food, the abatement of nuisances, and powers of inspection. City and town councils were made 'Local Boards of Health' and a 'Central Board of Health' was established as a controlling authority to oversee the execution of the Act. However, while there was general agreement that the Act was an important innovation, interference with the lives of the individual was a concern that was aired in the press. The Register in 1873 warned of the attendant danger in allowing too much power to the health officials of the newly established local boards. A clause requiring the whitewashing, cleansing, and purification of filthy premises was criticised because it was an attempt to enforce the 'habits of cleanliness upon private persons.' Another clause, The Register argued, required modification to restrict the power of the health officials from entering private dwellings at will without showing reasonable cause for the intrusion. There was the potential for an 'officious or inquisitive officer to make the Act a source of needless annoyance to respectable citizens against whom he may happen to entertain a grudge.'

...interference with the lives of the individual was a concern that was aired in the press...

The Public Health Bill of 1884 created even more controversy as, if passed, it would further increase the powers of health authorities. The Bill provided for the notification and isolation of cases of smallpox, cholera, plague and other 'dangerous, contagious or infectious diseases'. The obligations that it placed on the medical attendant and the possibility that such 'innovation' in public health policy might actually impede the detection and purification of the infected, offered much pause for thought. Some legislators thought it hard that a medical man should be liable to penalty for infringing the 'sacred' relationship between himself and his patients and that medical men should not be put in the position of informers. Medical members of parliament feared that the strict application of the isolation clause could result in hardship to the sufferers of diseases that required long recovery periods, which could in turn result in the 'ruin of any businessman in every township in the colony.' Despite these concerns, the Attorney General, Charles Cameron Kingston, insisted that there was 'a higher duty of the medical profession to the State' and it therefore ought to agree to the Bill.

...medical men should not be put in the position of informers...

By the end of the 19th century, South Australian public health policy was criticised by some members of the medical profession as 'piecemeal', because the legislation of many health matters was 'scattered up and down' in a variety of Acts. Provisions for the licensing of lying in homes, the preservation of infant life, the establishment and maintenance of sewers, vaccination and guarantine were contained in legislation other than that pertaining directly to public health. The Chief Secretary argued that the passing of the Public Health Bill of 1898, featuring proposals for sanitary administration on completely scientific lines, would provide for policy that 'embodied the best principles contained in the health legislation of the colonies and of Great Britain.' Further, the Bill, also providing for the compulsory notification of tuberculosis, 'placed the health laws of South

Australia in advance of anything they had yet in the British dominions.'

Following the centenary of South Australia's establishment in 1936, reflections on the quality of life to be found in Adelaide featured in the Medical Journal of Australia. Foundation of the colony, wrote A. Grenfell Price of the University of Adelaide in 1937, was 'the direct result of that scientific progress which produced the industrial revolution' and 'an example of man's scientific conquest of a new and strange environment.' With land virtually free from epidemic or endemic disease, a fine climate, a 'youthful' and 'exotic' population, the colony featured all the conditions conducive to good health. While cholera and typhus were described as having 'never gained entrance', bubonic plague made only a brief seasonal appearance in Port Adelaide, and smallpox secured only a 'temporary and local footing'; diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles and whooping cough appeared 'at intervals'; and the appearance of tuberculosis at the beginning of the 19th century may be accounted for by the 'indiscriminate dispatch of consumptives from Britain.' The 'worst scourges' were perceived to be gastro-intestinal infections such as typhoid fever. A more diligent approach to water and food provision, the development of immunisation methods, and the existence from the outset of 'efficient medical scientists' who played a leading part in 'fostering community interests', meant that other diseases were all but eliminated. In social terms, after the first 100 years of the colony, while the natural increase and the birth rate was alarmingly below the national average, so was the death rate, figures for serious crime, drunkenness, illegitimacy, insanity and suicide. While the path of progress had been a 'thorny one', according to A. R. Southwood, Chairman of the Central Board of Health, in 1938 'South Australia had made sound health laws."

### Susan Lemar

Visiting Research Fellow School of History and Politics University of Adelaide

Readers should contact the editor if they require specific references and footnote details.



Flat paper-based artefacts are in every museum collection. Derived from plant material, paper has hygroscopic properties that can influence the way it interacts with materials around it. Paper will expand and contract depending on the relative humidity, and is susceptible to chemicals or acids from material it has contact with. Material such as pressure sensitive tapes and adhesives can restrict the natural movement of paper and create splitting or stress. Plastics, rubber and poor quality boards will transfer acids into paper, causing discolouration and deterioration.

There are many products on the market associated with the repair, cleaning and storage of paper-based items. This article will explore pressure sensitive tape, adhesives, plastics, erasers and boards and how to identify what products are archival and safe to use with paper artefacts.

## Papers and boards

Papers and boards may be used against paper items for storage or display purposes. It is common to find flat paper items in paper folders or interleaved with sheets of paper for long periods of time while in storage. Paper items may also be directly against boards (cardboard or matboard) for display in a frame, storage or transport in a folder.

A poor paper or board product can be made from wood pulp or recycled paper, which have shortened fibres and contain impurities such as lignin. Chemicals and acids in these products limit the lifespan and cause deterioration. The acids can migrate into the artefact and cause similar chemical and physical deterioration. Paper items can;

- generally discolour;
- have acid 'burn' marks and stains;
- develop foxing spots [see Figure 1];
- become brittle and difficult to handle [see Figure 2].



Figure 1: The acidic backboard has contributed to foxing spots on this watercolour.



Figure 2: This backboard is so brittle it has split the attached photograph

There are archival or acid-free papers and boards commercially available that should be used for the long-term storage and display of paper-based artefacts. The highest quality paper-based product is made from cotton fibres. Some products now have an alkaline buffer, which will protect the paper from acids. When purchasing a paper or board for the long-term storage or display of paper artefacts, it is important to look for the following terms;

- 'archival'
- 'alkaline buffered'
- 'cotton rag'
- 'lignin free'

'Acid-free' is a term loosely used on commercial paper products. Most papers are created acid-free following manufacture, but over time will develop acids which will transfer onto your artefact. Make sure if you are purchasing 'acid-free' that one of the above terms is also used!

Coloured and coated papers should be avoided when storing or displaying paper items. There is a danger that coloured papers can bleed and discolour artefacts if there is high humidity or water damage. Coated papers will stick to the paper item if there is water damage.

## Plastics

Plastic sleeves are commonly used as a storage support system for flat paper items. Plastics can be in contact with photographs or paper in an album or folder, or as a single sleeve. Plastics are created with synthetic polymers and additives. Additives can make up to 50% of the plastic and modify the characteristic of the plastic.

Plastics are named after their base polymer and are often referred to by the abbreviation of the polymer name. For example PVC stands for polyvinyl chloride. PVC is not a desirable plastic to use for the preservation of paper-based items. The chloride in the plastic deteriorates and can eventually transfer acids. Deteriorating PVC can be identified because of the off gassing smell! Cellulose acetate (CA) is another polymer that should not be in contact with paper items. Factors that should be taken into consideration when selecting a plastic for the preservation of paper-based materials include;

- the longevity or ageing properties of the polymer;
- its strength and durability;
- dimensional stability;
- the presence of plasticisers, coatings or other additives that may be detrimental to adjacent artefacts;
- surface characteristics;
- the clarity of films (ie. the items inside should be easily viewed without having to take them out and handle unnecessarily);
- permeability.

Plastic materials that can be used for the storage and framing of archival materials include;

- polyethylene terephthalate (PET or Polyester). This is the most superior archival material.
- polypropylene (PP). This includes 'copy safe' plastic sleeves.
- polyethylene (PE)
- polycarbonate (PC)
- polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA)
- polytetrafluroro ethylene (PTFE)

## **Pressure Sensitive Tape**

Pressure sensitive tape, or sticky tape, is often found as a repair product for tears in paper items or as a labelling device. Although it is a good quick fix for ephemeral material, it is detrimental to all paper products. There are two types of pressure sensitive tape; rubber based and acrylic based.

Rubber based tapes are the most common product found on the market. These types of tape are often labelled as 'packing tape' and adhere quickly and completely to paper. Rubber based tapes, as their name suggests, have rubber products within the adhesive, which oxidise and deteriorate in three stages. In the first stage the adhesive becomes extremely liquid and sticky, and starts to penetrate the paper. In the second stage the adhesive becomes harder and the paper becomes





Figure 3: Tape stains on a print.

**Figure 4:** Tape stains on a book dust jacket.

translucent. The adhesive becomes yellow and the paper permanently stains and often becomes brittle in the third stage. Many people have seen this stage, often with only an adhesive stain and the original tear remaining on the paper, without any sign of the sticky-tape plastic carrier. [See Figures 3 and 4]

Often the pressure sensitive tape has a poor quality plastic carrier that distorts and creates acids, which also transfer onto the paper artefact.

Acrylic based pressure sensitive tapes often have a clear carrier and slow acting adhesive, which can take up to 72 hours for total contact with the paper! These tapes are often referred to as 'archival' because they are constructed out of quality plastic materials. However, acrylic based tapes also carry dangers to paper-based artefacts. The plastic carrier will not adapt to the natural expanding and contracting of paper. The carrier will resist and create stress in the paper, causing splits and distortion. The adhesive in acrylic tapes does not deteriorate like rubber tape, but does have other undesirable qualities. This type of adhesive can 'creep' from under the carrier and pick up dirt and particulate matter. It also has a tendency to pick up any media from the paper that is beneath it and shift it as it 'creeps', ultimately causing distortion and loss of information.

All pressure sensitive tapes are very difficult to remove from paper-based artefacts. Removing the carrier of the tape alone often means 'skinning' or removing paper fibres from the surface. There is no guarantee that harmful adhesives are removed from the paper when the carrier is lifted. Often solvents are required to remove the carrier and flush out the adhesive from the paper. Sometimes the tape cannot be removed at all due to reactive media and information on the paper.

As a substitute to tape for repairs, encapsulate the physically damaged item with an archival plastic sleeve so that no parts will be lost. Consult a trained conservator for a list of recommended materials and mending advice for tear repairs.

## Adhesives

Adhesives used directly against paper-based items should be very carefully considered. Adhesives have the potential to deteriorate, stain and physically damage paper. Commercially available adhesives often have unknown additives which may cause damage over time.

When selecting an adhesive ensure the following;

- it is reversible;
- it is strong;
- it is flexible;
- it has long-term properties such as chemical and physical stability.

It is very important to analyse the risk prior to using adhesives or adhering materials to a paperbased item. Sometimes moisture will cause tidelines of concentrated deterioration products to stain the paper. If the adhesive or material that is being adhered to the paper item has different flexibility and reactions to humidity the artefact will become stressed and physical damage will occur. Adhesives and materials that are too heavy for the paper item will create handling difficulties and possible physical damage. It is also important to consider what the paper is being adhered to! Make sure that all materials in contact with the item are archival.

There are many cases against using adhesives on paper-based materials. Sticky, or 'magnetic' albums are made with rubber-based adhesives which will stain and deteriorate paper and photographs over time. As an alternative, use photo corners made of polyester. Animal glue and polyvinyl acetate (PVA) are non-reversible adhesives that will not permit the natural 'breathing' of paper and therefore cause stresses and physical damage to the item. Other commercial pastes have additives and unknown ageing properties that over time may discolour and stain the paper.

There are many adhesives commercially available. It is important to consider the purpose of adhesion to correctly select the most suitable paste. Please consult a trained conservator to help with your choice.

## Surface Cleaning

Paper can 'pick up' surface dirt and particulate matter over time due to poor storage, handling and age. Due to its hygroscopic nature, paper has a high chance of absorbing and becoming permanently stained because of surface dirt.

Loose surface dirt can be simply removed with a soft brush. A camel hair brush or a very soft shaving brush can be purchased easily and reused for many years. Sometimes surface dirt does require a little more persuasion to move and an eraser is the best way to do this. Be careful in your selection of erasers – do not use 'rubbers' or an eraser with any rubber product in it! As discussed above, rubber deteriorates and transfers undesirable deterioration products into paper. White vinyl erasers such as Mars-Plastic (Staedtler) and Magic-Rub (Faber-Castell) are the best products available for dry surface cleaning.

Prior to using the eraser ensure that the paper item is flat and firmly supported. Use a paperweight on the work to prevent it from slipping and place a small piece of paper close to the area where the cleaning is to be done, to prevent your hand from directly touching the paper work and media. Be sure that the media will not be affected by the erasing; it is important not to lose any information! The eraser can be cut into small triangle points to get as close as possible to the media without removing it.

When erasing, use small smooth strokes in one direction, particularly around the edges of the paper. Back-and-forth movements will crumple or even tear paper. Go over the one area gently more than once rather than apply heavy pressure. Use a soft brush to remove erasing crumbs from the paper surface. Often the erasing process only shows limited visual changes to the work. The crumbs usually show if the treatment is successfully removing surface dirt from the paper. Dirt can be trapped below the paper surface, and in this case will require solvent cleaning. Again, it is important to speak to a trained conservator for professional advice.

## Artlab Conservators

Artlab Australia's clinic day appointments provide an opportunity for people to discuss the condition and care of an item with a specialist conservator. Artlab's specialists conserve oil paintings, watercolours, prints, drawings, books, maps, photographs, ceramics, glassware, wood, stone and textiles. Clinic days are held between 9.00am and 5.00pm on Wednesdays during the first and third week of every month. Please make an appointment by telephoning Artlab on 8207 7520.

Alternatively you are welcome to try Clinics Online. Clinics Online makes the clinic day service possible for clients who are incapacitated, unable to bring items in due to the size of the object or for those who live in regional areas of South Australia. Information and pictures of the artefact in question can be forwarded to Artlab via a series of special forms on the Artlab Website. You will be asked to upload images and answer various questions about the artefact. The more information you can provide about your item the easier it will be for the conservator to make an assessment. Try Clinics Online by visiting – www.artlabaustralia.com.au

**References:** Material for this article was sourced from the following references.

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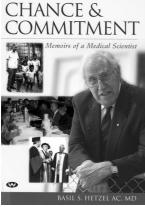
Course notes on The Removal of Pressure Sensitive Tape and Tape Stains Workshop (2004) by Linda Stiber and Elissa O'Loughlin

Course notes on Materials Used in Paper Conservation (2001) by Tracey Golds

### Jodi Proud

Paper Conservator

## **BOOK REVIEW**



Basil Hetzel

Chance and Commitment, Memoirs of a Medical Scientist Wakefield Press, 2005

...., ...,

Chance and Commitment, Memoirs of a Medical Scientist, published by Adelaide's Wakefield Press refers to the theme of chance throughout the book. The author Basil Hetzel claims that chance creates opportunities but choice is needed to take them. A natural philosopher, Hetzel is a Christian who explains his faith and the many ways in which he puts this into practice. 'Success, in whatever terms it is measured, is a means to an end, and without a clear purpose, leads to disillusionment'. Part of his greatness lies in his gratitude for the strengths he has been given, the love he has received, and the environment that has facilitated his goals.

There are moments when the book reads like a report, but editor Rosemary Luke has controlled this to an extent. Some aspects however could have been better placed as an appendix, so as not to inhibit the flow of reading. There is a chapter by chapter bibliography but no footnotes or appendix. The comprehensive index invites future dipping into this book, which readers will want to do. Also at the back is a useful list of Hetzel's awards and distinctions. This book is not just a long list of a man's activities. It is a reflection on their meaning. Such a work as this could easily be dry and tedious, but the writer has the depth to avoid this outcome. His favourite genre for recreational reading is biography, and this is evident. But this is an autobiography, and one cannot easily control the parameters of information about the life and learning of such a 'Renaissance man' as Sir Basil Hetzel. So there is an unevenness about the book, as we shift rapidly between the scientific and the family. Hetzel shows a generous and tactful spirit, and his amusing anecdotes are discreet yet apocryphal.

An original thinker, such concepts as The Hetzel Wheel are evidence of his analytical talents. He is also a great lobbyist and lodine Deficiency will be unlikely to run rampant again. It is interesting to read of his belief in Process Philosophy, which perceives 'human experience as a high-level exemplification of reality in general. All individual entities, including even protons and atoms, resemble human experience in the sense that they take account of their environment without being totally determined by it.' (Cobb and Griffin 1976, p.83) Hetzel's ability to gently laugh at his own traits as a passionate lobbyist and advocate is endearing. Indeed, he has earned the title of one of Australia's National Living Treasures.

### **Rose Wilson**

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# IN HISTORY WE TRUST! IN HISTORY WE TRUST

Put it in your diary now! It's time to reserve the last weekend in May for the 2006 State History Conference, In History We Trust.

...WILL OUR TRUST IN HISTORIANS AND HISTORY WRITING BE VINDICATED OR CHALLENGED?

The conference title not only makes a light-hearted, tongue-in-cheek reference to the History Trust, in acknowledgement of its 25th anniversary, but also sends a more serious signal about the intention of this year's conference. The program has been designed to give us the opportunity to critically reflect on the histories that have been written and presented about South Australia, especially over the last quarter of a century. Will our trust in historians and history writing be vindicated or challenged?

The History Trust was once again overwhelmed with offers of papers. It is very heartening to know that support for the Conference remains strong. We like to think that this annual history talk-fest will continue to have a role in promoting both the State's history and the practice of history.

Keynote speakers in the conference plenary sessions will do a broad sweep over the main fields of history writing. To start us off, Marian Quartly, Professor of History at Monash University and editor of the AHA's journal *History Australia*, will reflect on general trends in Australian history writing. Adelaide University academic historians, Susan Magarey and Rob Foster will analyse recent approaches to writing feminist and Indigenous history. Migration Museum Director, Viv Szekeres, will look at how we perceive cultural identity and Alan Mayne, incoming director of the Hawke Centre, will offer his thoughts on the construction of our Outback history. These papers will inevitably provoke discussion on whether or not 'blinkers' prevent us from acknowledging the complexity and diversity of our State's history and about the complex pressures and responsibilities historians face in the practice of their craft. Brian Samuels, well known to most of us in the history sector, will also reflect on the place of the History Trust since its creation in 1981 in delivering history to South Australians.

...THESE PAPERS WILL INEVITABLY PROVOKE DISCUSSION ON WHETHER OR NOT 'BLINKERS' PREVENT US FROM ACKNOWLEDGING THE COMPLEXITY AND DIVERSITY OF OUR STATE'S HISTORY...

Other presenters will explore issues involved in preserving and interpreting the past for both a local audience and for tourists - through books, walking trails, museum displays and through the media. Keith Conlon and Ron Kandelaars from Channel 9's Postcards will show us the best history bits from their popular TV program and discuss the issues and difficulties peculiar to presenting history in short 'grabs' to a mass audience. If you have always wanted to tell them what they should be showing on Postcards, then this is your chance! Keith and Ron want to go away from the Conference with plenty of ideas for future episodes and new approaches.

### THERE'S NO SLOWING DOWN OF THE CHALLENGES IN STORE FOR DELEGATES!

There's no slowing down of the challenges in store for delegates! A thought-provoking session on the use and abuse of history will examine Australia's 'creeping Anzacism', the way that 19th century Adelaide's less salubrious side has been left out of history, and the dangers inherent in writing school histories. In other sessions, presenters will give us the opportunity to question whether re-enactments and anniversaries add to the depth of our understanding about the past or leave us with skewed impressions. Workshops designed to offer new insights and methods for historical research and presentation will complement the more formal papers.

Everybody loves a good history myth, so on Saturday afternoon, there will be a special session challenging us to bust some of South Australia's most popular and strongly held myths. We invite you to bring along your own favourite for public debate.

We are trying a new idea this year. We plan to have some whiteboards dotted around the conference venue, inviting you to respond to some key questions and 'hot' topics. It's up to you to get the debates going for the weekend.

The Conference is in Adelaide this year. We have returned to the extremely convenient and centrally located Union Building at the University of Adelaide and there's free parking for delegates on the nearby Torrens Parade Ground. In History We Trust kicks off on the Friday night, with a Welcome Reception at the History Trust's head office, in the Drill Hall at Torrens Parade Ground - a fitting start to a weekend marking the Trust's 25th anniversary. Warren Fahey, music historian and performer, will entertain us with his songs and his prodigious knowledge of Australia's folk music.

The History Trust thanks our Conference sponsors -State Records, Heritage Branch (DEH), Disk-Edits, the History Council of South Australia and Albox Australia for their support. We can't put on a Conference of this standard at the current fee level without additional financial support from sponsors.

So, we look forward to catching up with you all at the 15th State History Conference, *In History We Trust*, on the weekend of Friday 26 to Sunday 28 May 2006.

You will find a copy of the registration brochure in this issue of *History Matters*. You can also print a copy from the History Trust website, **www.history.sa.gov.au** 

or ring the History Trust on 8203 9888.

...THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO GIVE US THE OPPORTUNITY TO CRITICALLY REFLECT ON THE HISTORIES THAT HAVE BEEN WRITTEN AND PRESENTED ABOUT SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ESPECIALLY OVER THE LAST QUARTER OF A CENTURY...



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# HISTORY **news**

Introducing...



Hello History Matters readers, my name is Jill MacKenzie. I am from Saskatchewan, Canada. Never heard of it? Not to worry, Canadians from the province of Saskatchewan are quite aware of the fact that a.) Not many people know where Saskatchewan is and, b.) Our province's name is a bit of a mouthful. In fact, the saying, "Saskatchewan: Hard to Spell, Easy to Draw" has become our unofficial motto! I recently graduated with high honours in History from the University of Saskatchewan in the College of Arts and Science. I am here in Adelaide in the midst of a six-month internship as a Junior Curator at the Migration Museum. The internship is part of the Young Professionals International Program, which is supported by the Canadian Museums Association and Foreign Affairs Canada. I am currently reviewing the museum's collection regarding the Vietnamese community and the history of their migration and settlement in South Australia. This review will be utilised to satisfy two projects, the first as part of the exhibition, "The Fall of Saigon: Collected Fragments Of Post 75 Generation", opening 21 January 2006, and secondly for the redevelopment project taking place in the 20th Century Gallery in the latter part of that year.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, an event that prompted the mass exodus of tens of thousands of Vietnamese to countries all over the world, including Canada and Australia. With the unification of North and South Vietnam under Communist control in the mid-1970s. countless Vietnamese made the difficult decision to leave behind family, friends and the life that they knew in order to escape the threat of persecution, imprisonment, and even death. Many arrived in South Australia as refugees with little more than the clothes on their backs. Three decades later the Vietnamese community has become a thriving and active voice within the state, with a multitude of organisations dedicated to the preservation of their culture and the celebration of Australia's multicultural society.

I have had an opportunity to meet with members of the Vietnamese community who have kindly shared their stories with me and have greatly contributed to the project thus far. Often in the past, museums have forgotten, discouraged and avoided refugee history because they inevitably address the painful and sensitive issues of war, loss, discrimination and death. However, in more recent history, social history museums like the Migration Museum have embraced these stories as not only important but fundamentally necessary in order to provide a more accurate and complete

#### HISTORY NEWS

history for their visitors. The value of a social history museum, in this regard cannot be underestimated.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in Adelaide and working with the wonderful staff at the Migration Museum and in the History Trust. Highlights thus far have been participating in the Scottish country dancing during the museum's Family Day, seeing an emu only steps away from an emu crossing sign while on a trip with Kate and Amanda from the Community History Unit, and cutting up celery for the Dear Dr. Janzow exhibition launch. Thank you to everyone for making my time here so enjoyable.

## BURRA PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

The Burra History Group has recently opened an exhibition at the Burra Town Hall featuring a range of photographs dating from 1850-1930. This exhibition is open daily between 1-4pm, free admission. Photos are also available for sale. Readers are invited to visit the website www.burrahistory.info for further details of this and other history activities in Burra.



## Eastern Region Historical Societies Seminar

### "INTO THE WILDERNESS"...

a one day seminar to be held on Saturday 8 April 2006 ...with an emphasis on the local history of the Walkerville District. First settled in 1838, the area has a long history including many of the pioneers of the State. Hosted by the Walkerville Historical Society Inc. To be held at the Wilderness School, there will be talks in the morning and tours in the afternoon finishing with a round-up of each group's activities. \$20 includes luncheon and refreshments. Places are limited so avoid disappointment, book early. Open to all.

Contact: Lyn O'Grady on 8269 5982

### The Embroiderers' Guild of South Australia presents

## The 2006 Exhibition of Guild Members' Work

### "EMBELLISHED WATERS"

Friday 3 March to Saturday 18 March 2006

Open daily from 10am to 4pm and to 8pm on Thursdays

At The Guild 16 Hughes Street Mile End

Contact: T 8234 1104 F 8234 1513 E embguild@tne.net.au www.embguildsa.org.au

### **Daily demonstrations**

Admission \$5 Light refreshments available

## PAINTING OF OLDER BUILDINGS IN SA

## - a DEH Heritage Conservation Seminar

There's a lot more to painting older buildings than choosing the 'right' colours. The best approach will help protect the fabric as well as the aesthetics of the property. Don't miss this opportunity to find out about:

- applied decorative finishes
- paint systems and alternatives
- quality of materials

• workmanship

• historic and contemporary colour schemes and much more.

Seminar style presentations by industry experts will be supplemented by case studies and a site visit. There will also be ample opportunity to seek specific information.

This seminar will be of interest to owners of properties (heritage listed or not), architects, Heritage Advisers, colour consultants, tradespeople and others.

Convened by the Department for Environment and Heritage, the seminar is planned for mid-May, 2006. Program details and registration forms will be available from 1 April from the DEH website www.heritage.sa.gov.au/heritage or by contacting the Heritage Branch on (08) 8124 4947.

#### AUSTRALIAN MINING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE, KADINA JULY 5-9, 2006

### The Copper Triangle: Australia's Little Cornwall

The next annual conference of the Australian Mining History Association will be held at Kadina in South Australia's Copper Triangle from 5-9 July 2006. The conference will feature presentations on a variety of topics, including a number devoted to the history of the Copper Triangle. Registration and all presentations will be in the Kadina Visitor Centre adjacent to the Matta Mine at the eastern end of the famous Wallaroo Mine Lode. A number of tours to sites of interest in the Copper Triangle will be interspersed throughout the program, including Wallaroo Mines, Wallaroo smelter site and the Heritage and Nautical Museum, Wheal Hughes tourist mine, Moonta township, Moonta cemetery and Moonta Mines State Heritage Area. Inspection of other mines in the Moonta district will be arranged for Monday 10 July if there is sufficient interest.

Social events include a Welcoming Reception in the Kadina Town Hall, a musical evening in the Wallaroo Town Hall with entertainment provided by local groups and a Conference Dinner in the Moonta Town Hall. A wide range of accommodation is available in the Copper Triangle towns of Kadina, Moonta and Wallaroo and minibuses will be available for those without a vehicle or who prefer not to drive.

COST:	Full Delegate	\$140
	Accompanying Person	\$90
	Single Day	\$50

For information concerning registration contact: **Mel Davies**, Ph: (08) 6488 2939; Email; mdavies@uwa.edu.au

For general information contact:

Greg Drew, Ph: 08 8463 3270; Email; drew.greg@saugov.sa.gov.au Graham Hancock, Ph: (08) 8821 1600; Email; ghancock@yp-connect.net



## HISTORY TRUST Exhibitions

## HISTORY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## Gallipoli: The South Australian Story

This exhibition tells the story of South Australia's participation in and response to this Great War event that became part of Australia's sense of identity and nationhood.

until August 2006

### **State History Conference** In History We Trust

The Conference will mark the 25th anniversary of the History Trust of South Australia. A reflection on history making in South Australia, with a particular focus on the past 25 years.

### 26 - 28 May 2006

## SA History Week

The week-long event is coordinated by the History Trust. Organisations and community groups are invited to promote their part in South Australia's history by registering activities for inclusion in the 2006 program. Activities can include open days, seminars, historical walks and bus tours, exhibitions, events, window displays and much more.

### 20 - 28 May 2006

## MIGRATION MUSEUM

## Gambling In Australia: Thrills, Spills & Social Ills



"Like drugs and sexuality, gambling is both persuasive and potentially threatening to social welfare". From the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, this exhibition explores the thrills, spills and social ills of gambling in Australia.

7 April - October 2006

## Spin & Weave a Thread

Hand Spinners and Weavers Guild of SA Inc

A look at the influence of migrant weavers on the history of the Hand Spinners and Weavers Guild. This exhibition will showcase the many weaving skills migrants have brought with them to South Australia.

### early March - late May 2006





## SA MARITIME MUSEUM

Just Add Water -Schemes and Dreams for a Sunburnt Country

This exhibition tells stories of Australians and our relationship with water. In an exciting and interactive space, visitors will engage with the topic on a social, scientific and ecological level, as well as an emotional one. Issues about water are presented as interactive displays, iconic objects, beautiful artworks, interactive maps and personal stories.

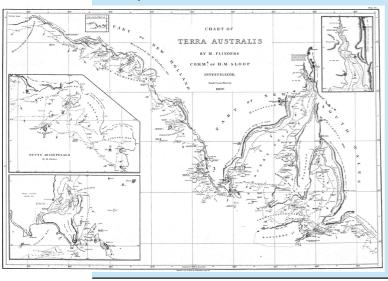
### until 2 April 2006



## South Australia On The Map

From the first European journey along the South Australian coast in 1627 to satellite mapping to Indigenous knowledge and belief systems, learn how we have come to discover and represent this land.

### 13 April - 21 June 2006



## NATIONAL MOTOR MUSEUM Weird Wheels



Vehicles come in all shapes and sizes, and their visual design is affected by a variety of factors, from tax laws to economies of scale; from personal preference to their intended purpose. From the earliest days of car design, designers put their own slant on how a car should look, as well as what it should do and how it should function. This exhibition shows off some of the strange beasts that have come onto the market and onto Australian roads.

### until August 2006



## **Oldsmobile Club**

The Oldsmobile Club of Australia began in 1976 in Melbourne and is affiliated with the Oldsmobile Club of America. The club is going strong with 125 families with more than 300 cars and trucks from curved dash to high performance models. At Easter, the club will be holding its 9th National Meet in the Barossa Valley and as a lead up to the meet the club is mounting a display at the National Motor Museum. The display will include,

- a 1927 Model 30E four door sedan
- a 1948 66 Ace four door sedan
- a fully restored 1961 F85 four door sedan, the first year of the Cutlass compact body.
- a 1928 tourer

### until 2 April 2006



