

# PIONEER e-Xpress

Monthly Newsletter of the Pioneers Association of South Australia Inc  
February 2019



## APRIL

**PUB LUNCH: Wednesday 3 April** in the Victoria Room of the Edinburgh Hotel, 7 High St, Mitcham, 12 for 12.30pm. Speaker: Rhondda Harris, **True crime in early Adelaide: stories from the journal of the first governor of the Adelaide Gaol.**

Cost: members \$45, non-members \$50 (includes 2 course luncheon, tea/coffee.)

Bookings and Payment essential by 26 March.

**JUNIOR PIONEERS EVENT, Monday 15 April** from 10.15am – 12.30pm. **Roaming Rundle Mall** – a guided tour with Glen Woodward. Details on page 3

## MAY



For a full list of PASA events during the History Festival please refer to page 7 of this newsletter.

## JUNE

**PIONEER GROUP EVENT: Wednesday 5 June** from 10.00am -1.00pm at Lochend House, Campbelltown. Speaker: Paul Blackman, **Music in the Colonial Period.**

Cost: \$5 for members and non-members includes a tour of Lochend House and morning tea.



Lochend House

## Editorial

The annual Fringe Festival is already upon us here in Adelaide and Mad March is not far away and so our PASA programme is on hold for a month until the popular Pub Lunch in early April. However, to make up for “lost” time, PASA is involved in 5 events during the State’s History Festival in May! These are outlined in a special PASA History Festival programme on page 7. Apart from our Pioneer Poster Exhibition we are organising a Scan Fest and a trio of presentations on the *Coromandel*, two of which are being jointly run with other history groups. .... And there’s much, much, more in this 7-page bumper edition of the February Newsletter.

Bob Stace, Editor

## PASA OFFICE REVAMP



During the January Office closure volunteers moved much of the furniture around the office space giving it a very new look. The chief change was the relocation of the Library from the inner office space to the previous reception/foyer area creating a research area away from the sometimes noisy and busy office environment. The photo above shows this significant change as you enter the PASA Office from the corridor in the basement of Stafford House.

**PASA Librarian Julie Neale** is happy with the change and has supplied the following report to highlight some of the current changes and improvements to the Library.

### WELCOME TO OUR RELOCATED LIBRARY

The relocation of the Library has given us the opportunity to reorganize the library shelving and the grouping of books. The shelves are now organised in the following sections: Pioneer Biographies (PB), Pioneer families (PF), Pioneer Shipping (PS), Pioneer Settlements (PS), South Australia (SA), Australia (Aust) and General. This gives greater focus to the key components of our library resources.

A working area for research has been established with a laptop computer accessible to members. The laptop contains data bases for family histories and shipping passenger lists. A seating “nook” with bulletin boards has also been created for informal reading or chatting.

We continue to build our library collection and welcome the donation of any appropriate materials. We also welcome new volunteers to support the many tasks of the Library, either by attending the office or working from home.

I look forward to meeting you when you next visit the Office and our revamped Library.

Julie Neale, Librarian



**PASA Librarian Julie Neale in the relocated Library**

### 2019 OFFICE COORDINATORS

During opening hours this year our Office Coordinators are:

Tuesday: Judith Francis

Thursday: Colin Routley

### NEXT EVENT: APRIL PUB LUNCH



**Rhondda Harris will be our speaker at the Pub Lunch at the Edinburgh Hotel on Wednesday 3 April.** She will use her recently published book to address the

topic **True Crime in Adelaide; stories from the journal of the first governor of the Adelaide Gaol.**

Rhondda will reveal that Adelaide was never the utopia it has been often made out to be — virtuous and free from convict taint. The journal of William Baker Ashton tells the dark side of our early years. The journal is like a saga, peopled by the unfortunates of the colony. It reveals what was really happening in early Adelaide and at the same time brings to our attention the extraordinary character of the writer, William Baker Ashton, who cared as best he could for those in his gaol, known to us as the Old Adelaide Gaol but called ‘Ashton’s Hotel’ by the early colonists.

The lunch will be held in the Victoria Room of the Edinburgh Hotel at Mitcham.

Cost for the 2-course lunch is \$45 for members or \$50 non-members, and bookings and payments are required by 26 March. **Please book early as there is a limit on the numbers the Victoria Room can accommodate.**

## JUNIOR PIONEERS to go a Roaming in Rundle Mall on 15 April

Junior Pioneers and their families will shortly receive invitations to attend their next event which is on Monday 15 April. The well-known Adelaide historian and guide, Glen Woodward will lead the Juniors on a roam



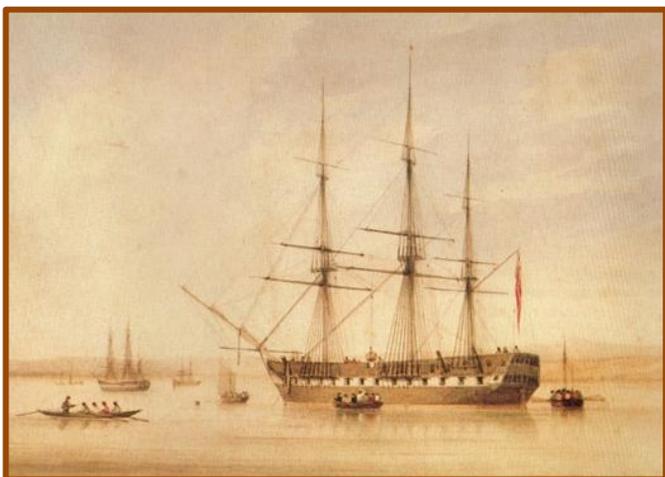
through the Rundle Mall which will highlight the history and significance of the street as well as some of its intriguing stories. The tour will commence at the Bee Hive Corner at 10.15am and conclude around 12.30pm. Cost is \$5 with



bookings due by Tuesday 2 April. Full details will be available in the next newsletter and in the invitation being sent to Junior Pioneers. As always, PASA members are most welcome to join the Juniors for this event.

## SHIPPING GROUPS TO SAIL AGAIN

Some years ago, PASA started a Shipping Groups project to collect information from descendants about the various ships that arrived during the Pioneer years. Although much vital information was collected, the project was short lived.



**The *Buckinghamshire* in Holdfast Bay**  
The last of Colonel William Light's paintings  
Art Gallery of SA

However, we now plan to build on what has already been achieved by revisiting the project this year in a targeted way. To restart the project, we have selected ships from the early years which are well represented by descendants who are current PASA members, thus increasing the chances of discovering new resources and connections. We aim to build up a file on each ship which will include information about the ship, including ships' logs where available, diaries, passenger lists and individual stories of passengers.

To help achieve this, a series of meetings will be held in the PASA Office for descendants of specific ships to share any family tales, artefacts and histories. [see below for a schedule of meetings] Data that is collected will be collated in the form of written or photographic evidence and displayed in a ship specific folder in the PASA library, for use as research tools.

**This year the ships under discussion and their meeting dates will be as follows:**

Meeting Date in PASA Office	Ship	Arrived In S A
6/3/2019	Pestonjee Bomanjee	12/10/1838
17/4/2019	Canton	2/5/1838
1/5/2019	Buckinghamshire	21/3/1839
19/6/2019	D'Auvergne	21/3/1839
17/7/2019	Eden	24/6/1838
7/8/2019	Navarino	6/12/1837
4/9/2019	Hooghly	17/6/1839
# TBA	John Renwick	9/2/1837
# TBA	Moffatt	19/12/1839

# To Be Arranged; these meetings will be held in October and November on dates to be arranged.

Any PASA members whose ancestors arrived on these ships are invited to attend their meeting at the PASA Office from 10am to noon. Please bring along any items to share. Morning tea will be provided. If you have information you would like to share but cannot attend the scheduled meeting, then please use the contact email below. For further information or suggestions for other ships to be discussed in future, please contact PASA Councillor Karina Hutchesson at [pasa.sameships@gmail.com](mailto:pasa.sameships@gmail.com).

### FIRST SHIPPING GROUP MEETING 2019

For descendants of passengers aboard the *Pestonjee Bomanjee*, on Wednesday 6 March from 10.00 – 12 noon in the PASA Office.

### PASA POSTER PROJECT UPDATE

A big **thank you** to all our members who have submitted first drafts of their poster(s) for editing and layout. We received 16 posters by the due date of 5<sup>th</sup> February. A great effort.

This year we have asked, where possible, for digital submissions which include sources of information and references. This will allow us to validate the information we publish. This innovation has been very successful and made the task easier but does require an understanding of WORD. For those members who have found this challenging, we have offered advice and support. We know these members will be our experts in the coming years.



Volunteers supporting members with their poster research in the revamped PASA Office

For those of you who have registered interest in completing a poster this year, it is not too late. If you have experienced difficulty in locating information, using the digital format or have 'run out of time', **we will accept poster submissions until the end of February**. Please contact us at [pasa2019posters@gmail.com](mailto:pasa2019posters@gmail.com) if your poster is on the way, you need assistance, or wish to discuss some aspect of your research. We will be glad to help.

**Alternately you may wish to defer your poster until next year.**

We would like the poster project to be open for submissions throughout the year. This means you can register interest at any time and send in your draft as soon as it is completed. There will be regular reminders in both our journal and newsletter. We hope that this will then give you more time for your preparation and avoid a beginning of the year rush.

All members who have participated in the 2018/19 project will be contacted shortly. We will also be sending out first drafts of finalised posters for checking by their authors.

**PASA Posters are a fantastic source of research material for genealogists and family members now and in the future and we hope all members will continue to prepare them for many years to come.**

Judith Francis & Michael Smith

### UPPILL FAMILY REUNION & BOOK LAUNCH

George and Mary Rose UPPILL (nee Osment) arrived at Holdfast Bay on 16 July 1839, aboard the barque "Asia". A book covering their ancestors and descendants is to be launched in May 2019.

Descendants of George and Mary Rose are invited to a **reunion and book launch**. Further details are available from PASA member Ian Uppill:

Email: [iuppill3@bigpond.com](mailto:iuppill3@bigpond.com)

# FEBRUARY LUNCHEON REPORT

## CEMETERY TOUR

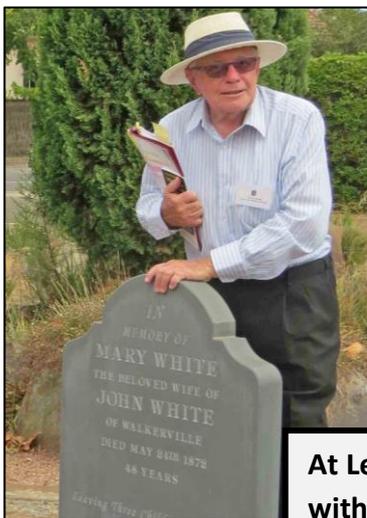


Prior to the Luncheon, some 30 members were treated to a most interesting tour of the historic Wesleyan Cemetery which is located in Smith St Walkerville, directly opposite the Walkerville Uniting Church which was our lunch venue.

We learnt from our very knowledgeable guide, PASA member Jim Everett, that the cemetery was established by the Trustees of the Walkerville Wesleyan Church in 1849 with the first burial in April 1850. Although most burials were from the Wesleyan Church, there was a policy of allowing access to members of other denominations, so the Cemetery presents a reflection of the earlier settler society of the district. We saw several German headstones reflecting the many workers from the Hanover area who came to South Australia to work.

With Jim's guidance we found the Cemetery to be a lovely place of solitude which provides a picture of early local settler society and a social record of the activities of the local community. We discovered several prominent settlers' graves plus those of local pioneer tradesmen and women.

Jim highlighted the very positive restoration and maintenance work which has been undertaken by the Walkerville Council since it took control in 1972; the restoration of a stone boundary wall was a feature.



**At Left: Tour Guide Jim Everett with a restored gravestone**

We concluded the tour content in the knowledge that this historic site, containing the graves of some of our ancestors, was being well cared for by the Council with the help of the Friends of the Walkerville Wesleyan Cemetery.

## LUNCHEON AND THE NOT SO LUCK OF THE IRISH

By lunchtime over 60 members and guests had gathered in the Hall of the Walkerville Uniting Church for our first event of 2019. We were welcomed warmly by Sue Farrant, the Chairperson of the Church's Council, who provided us with a brief history of the Church.

Our guest speaker, Ron Featherston then embarked on his topic **1840 – the foundations of the Irish in South Australia.**



Ron's thoroughly researched presentation looked at Colonel Robert Torrens and his Irish emigration model which both began and ended in 1840 but would form the building blocks of a family and friendship based rolling chain of emigration which continued for several decades and thereby shaped the story of the Irish in South Australia.

Colonel Robert Torrens, politician, economist, an Irishman of considerable influence, and member of the South Australian Commission, was the driving force behind this emigration scheme. He was appalled by the socio-economic conditions faced by the Irish labouring class which he described as "the most wretched and distressed in all of Europe" and saw a planned migration scheme based on the Wakefield model as a solution. The impact of the Poor Laws of 1838 provided a further catalyst for the migration of 1840.

The plans were very grand with possibly over 200,00 Irish emigrants to form a "New Ireland" in South Australia. With South Australia being largely unexplored the promises made to intending colonists were wildly ambitious.

The 1840 ships carried about 500 personally selected emigrants. While the early applicants were sent via English ports, the majority were sent directly from Ireland on the *William Nichol*, *Mary Dugdale and Birman*, being the 1<sup>st</sup> and only ever to carry emigrants directly from Ireland to South Australia. Robert Richard Torrens and family arrived on the *Brightman*.

The emigrants included about 100 couples, 226 children under 14, 38 single men and 39 single women with some of the latter being the adult children of the married couples.

But the "luck of the Irish" ran out as soon as the ships arrived at Port Adelaide with news that the South Australian assisted migration scheme had been abandoned due to the Province's parlous financial situation and that the financial backers of the Irish scheme were bankrupt.

This very small first wave of around of 500 who arrived in 1840 thus formed the base for a future rolling chain/sponsored Irish emigration to South Australia during the rest of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and which would in turn have a significant role in shaping the Irish in South Australia.

## SCANFEST: Pioneer Faces

During the May History Festival, we are aiming to create a collection of portraits of our pioneers - the faces of the men, women and children who settled in South Australia in the early years of the Colony.

We invite you to be part of this project by bringing your family photos and images to share and be scanned for the collection. They will then be returned to you immediately and you will also be asked to sign a simple release form authorising PASA to hold and reproduce electronic copies. You will retain ownership but have the satisfaction of knowing that you helped preserve and build a unique collection of faces from our past. So now is the time to check your photos and be ready for the Scanfest.

The **SCANFEST** will be held in the PASA Office and will be open for scanning on Sunday 19th May between 1pm to 4pm, and Monday 20 May between 10am and 2.30pm.

If you have any questions, please direct them to Judith Francis in the PASA Office on Tuesdays.

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

**January Answer:** As we have already discovered, George Milner Stephen, Acting Governor of South Australia in 1838, had a most interesting life. In July 1840 he married **Mary Hindmarsh**, the daughter of our first Governor, Captain John and Mrs Susannah Hindmarsh, at Holy Trinity Church in Adelaide.

### This month's quiz:

In June we will be visiting the historic Lochend homestead at Campbelltown. [see the image on page 1]



**Question:**

**Who was the original owner of Lochend in 1842? (image at left)**

As a matter of interest, our early settler arrived in Adelaide as part of Joseph Hawden's first overland cattle drive in 1838 which was one of the featured events in our recent "1838 Retrospective".

**The Pioneers Association of South Australia Inc**  
**Stafford House, 23-25 Leigh St, Adelaide, 5000**  
**Phone: (08) 82315055**  
**Email: [pioneersa@chariot.net.au](mailto:pioneersa@chariot.net.au)**  
**Website: [www.pioneerssa.org.au](http://www.pioneerssa.org.au)**  
**Pioneer e-Xpress Editor: Bob Stace**  
**Photos: Sue Fox and Bob Stace**



# Calendar of PASA Events during the May History Festival



## The *Coromandel* Tri Series



During the History Festival there will be a series of 3 events relating to the 1837 *Coromandel*. The speakers at these events are both members of PASA, Brian Stace from Devonport, Tasmania, and Bill Othams

from Port Pirie. Brian and Bill both have an ancestor who came on the *Coromandel* and they have been jointly researching its story in preparation for a two-volume book on the subject which will be published later this year.

Each topic will showcase a different aspect of their research. PASA members are welcome to attend any of these 3 events.

### Wednesday 8 May from 12noon - 2.00pm

**Pioneer Group Luncheon** in the Hall of Pilgrim Uniting Church, 12 Flinders St, Adelaide

Speakers: Brian Stace and Bill Othams

#### The passengers on the *Coromandel* 1837

BYO Lunch; tea/coffee and biscuits provided.

Cost: \$2 members and guests. No bookings needed.

Speakers will commence at 12.30pm.

### Wednesday 8 May from 7.30pm -10.00pm

#### Spotlight on the people of the ship *Coromandel* 1837

[The topic will include stories and biographies of the deserters and those passengers who became pioneers of the Adelaide Hills]

Presented by the Coromandel Valley Branch of the National Trust and the Blackwood Action Group.

Venue: Blackwood Uniting Church Hall, 266 Main Road, Blackwood

Speakers: Brian Stace and Bill Othams

Cost: \$5, supper included

### Sunday 26 May from 4.00pm-5.30pm

**Meeting of the Glenelg Historical Society** at the Jetty Hotel, Jetty Road, Glenelg

**The 1837 *Coromandel*: arrival of the working classes**

Speaker: Bill Othams

Free Entry

PASA members are welcome to join Glenelg members for dinner at the Hotel after the meeting.

### Sunday 19, Monday 20, Tuesday 21 May

#### PIONEER POSTER EXHIBITION

A display of new illustrative posters prepared by members of PASA depicting the lives of pioneer settlers of South Australia.



Venue: The basement of Stafford House adjacent to the PASA Office.

Times: Sunday 19 May from 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Monday 20 & Tuesday 21 May from 10.00am – 2.30pm

### Sunday 19, Monday 20 May

#### SCANFEST: PIONEER FACES

A fest of scanning; bring your photos and images relating to your pioneer ancestors and their families so they can be scanned and added to PASA's digital collection of Pioneer images. [see page 6 of this newsletter for full details]

Venue: The PASA Office in the basement of Stafford House

Times: Sunday 19 May from 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Monday 20 May from 10.00am – 2.30pm