DECEMBER

PIONEER GROUP LUNCHEON  Wednesday 4 December from 12noon – 2.00pm at the Pilgrim Uniting Church Hall, 12 Flinders St, Adelaide. Topic: _1839, a retrospective 180 years on._ BYO Lunch. Christmas cake and tea/coffee provided. Members $2, non-members $5

VISIT TO YESTERDAY’S DAUGHTERS EXHIBITION  Wednesday 11 December at the St Peters Town Hall from 11am – 12.30pm. Limited numbers; no cost, but bookings necessary by 4 December. Further details on this page.

PASA OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURE. Final day open for 2019, Tuesday 17 December. Reopening in 2020 on Tuesdays only from 7 January, with full service recommencing on Tuesdays and Thursdays as from 28 January.

PROCLAMATION DAY  Saturday 28 December

OLD GUM TREE CEREMONY  corner of MacFarlane and Bagshaw Streets, North Glenelg. 9.00am for 9.30 – 10.30am.

PASA LUNCH  12noon for 12.25pm at the Glenelg Golf Club, James Melrose Drive, Novar Gardens. Three course luncheon with drink on arrival. Speaker Justin Gore, _Sir George Strickland Kingston._ Members $70, non-members $75. Bookings and payment essential by 12 December.

NEW EVENT: Wednesday 11 December

Visit to the _Yesterday’s Daughters_ Exhibition: Celebrating Women’s Suffrage

A new event has been squeezed in during December with a guided visit to an Exhibition at the St Peters Town Hall, 101 Payneham Rd, St Peters from 11.00am to 12.30pm. The Exhibition tells the story of the remarkable women who campaigned for political reform, social justice and a more egalitarian and compassionate society in the nineteenth century. These courageous women included Lady Mary Colton, Catherine Helen Spence, Mary MacKillop, Annie Montgomery Martin, Muriel Matters and others. Parking is available at the rear of the Hall; please meet at the side entrance on St Peters Street at 11am.

This edition of the newsletter highlights the busy, interesting and varied nature of our programme over the past month with reports and photos from a number of events which highlight the enjoyment experienced by those members and guests who attended. December brings the very popular _180 Year Retrospective_ highlighting the events of 1839, along with the Editor’s favourite event the Proclamation Day Lunch which closes out the 2019 programme.

It’s also great to know that this newsletter is enjoyed and appreciated far and wide as can be seen from the two emails to the Editor from overseas. (see page 2)

Bob Stace, Editor
EMAILS FROM AFAR

From Ann Hirst, USA
I am an overseas Pioneer member who currently receives the journal and newsletter in digital form. Please thank the editors Bob Stace and Peter Brinkworth and let them know that I really enjoy receiving the newsletters and journals. They keep me in touch with PASA activities and remind me of my South Australian roots, although I now live faraway in the US. Each time they arrive I remember with admiration the extraordinary courage of my pioneer ancestors and others like them.

From Brian Cavenett, Chester, UK
A friend sent a copy of the article about Kingsley Ireland in your Pioneer Express October issue. I just would like to record his incredible efforts to trace the history of the Cavenett family in Australia. He was a member of that family and named one of his children Cavenett. At a time in the 60s and 70s tracing family histories was a labour of love because there were no computers and no internet search engines. Kingsley’s efforts on following the Cavenett family from Devon resulted in a remarkable book called The Cavenett Family in Australia 1840 -1970. The cover has the photos of the 3 children who arrived in Adelaide in 1840 and the book records their families with details of their lives and in many cases photos of the family members. The book is online and is a tribute to Kingsley’s contribution to Australian family history.

NEXT EVENT: 1839 RETROSPECTIVE

The Pioneer Group Luncheon on Wednesday 4 December will feature 12 PASA members recounting events and personalities from South Australia in 1839, many of which feature their ancestors.

The death and funeral of Colonel William Light was a major event in the Colony in 1839

[William Light: Self Portrait 1839, Art Gallery of SA]

The meeting will be held in the Pilgrim Uniting Church Hall in Flinders St, Adelaide. Please bring your own lunch, arrive around 12noon and be ready for the meeting to start around 12.15pm. Tea, coffee and Christmas cake will be provided. This Retrospective event is well worth sharing with a friend as it showcases the stories of our ancestors and highlights the essential elements of why we belong to our Association.

Bookings are not necessary; payment on arrival of $2 for members and $5 for non-members.

CELEBRATE PROCLAMATION DAY WITH PASA: Saturday 28 December

Proclamation Day is the occasion when all PASA members, wherever you may be, can honour and reflect on the lives of your pioneer ancestors who came to South Australia in those early years of the Colony.

If you live in or near Adelaide you can commence the day by attending the public commemoration ceremony at the Old Gum Tree at North Glenelg from 9.00am to 10.30am, enjoy morning tea under the shade of the gum trees and then move on to the PASA Proclamation Day Lunch at the Glenelg Golf Club from 12noon where we will be joined very appropriately by our Patron His Excellency the Governor of South Australia Hieu Van Le AC and Mrs Le.

Our speaker for the lunch will be Justin Gore from Art Lab Australia with a very intriguing presentation on Sir George Strickland Kingston.
Cost for the event which includes a 3 course lunch with drink on arrival is $70 for members and $75 for non-members. If you haven’t booked yet, then you would be wise to do so ASAP. **Bookings and payment must be finalised to the PASA Office by 12 December.**

**PIONEER POSTER PROJECT 2020**

It is not too late to register your interest in this very rewarding project. Use the following email to contact project coordinator Judith Francis if you would like to produce a pioneer poster for the 2020 series. A workshop to support you with the preparation and production of your poster will be arranged shortly. Express your interest now at: pasa2019posters@gmail.com

**TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

**October Answer**

The charming red brick cottage which featured in the JM Skipper painting of 1848 and which was designed by George Kingston (the topic at our upcoming Proclamation Day Lunch) is **Cummins House**. It was built for **John Morphet** and his family.

**November Question:**

Who wrote the following to the Editor of the SA Register in 1877?

*I deny the right of the Government to interfere or make use of any portion of the Parklands not specially reserved or set apart for Government purposes by Colonel Light and so described in his original plan of the city. I can claim to be ........an authority on this subject because my official position as next to Light on the survey staff gave me the best opportunity for knowing every detail of his plans, as well as it being my duty to see that his instructions were properly carried out.**

**SAME SHIPS MEETINGS CONTINUE**

Descendants of the **Moffat** met during the past month to exchange stories and anecdotes of their ancestors and to add to PASA’s growing data base of knowledge.

Pictured above (L-R) at the **Moffat** meeting are Rodney Phillips, Rex Wilson and Warren Lewis. Among the stories told was that of Warren’s ancestor Samuel Lewis who operated Adelaide Stone Works in the 1840s. Samuel created and erected the original George Kingston designed monument to Colonel Light in 1843 and built the Clayton Chapel at Norwood in 1855/56. Warren donated an updated publication of Samuel’s story 'Found in Stones' to the PASA library.

[Note above in the photo, the new additions to the Office which can be seen hanging on the wall just inside the entrance; two framed prints of the Old Colonist Banquet mosaic photos. Is your ancestor pictured?]
The Same Ship meetings have discovered many “new” stories including this one which was reported in the Observer of 17 Jan 1903 and described an incident aboard the D’Auvergne which arrived in South Australia in 1839.

Soon after we left England all the lady emigrant passengers who had babies were allowed so much porter per day, which was served out under the inspection of the doctor of the ship (Dr Litchfield). A lady stepped forward and demanded her porter, “but”, said the doctor, “where is the baby?” “Here”, she said, producing a big boy of six or seven years old. The doctor looked on in astonishment, but the lady insisted, and made the boy there and then take the breast. She got the porter.

The Same Ships project will continue in 2020 with an emphasis on the ships arriving in 1840. Look for the programme in future newsletters.

VISIT TO THE GRANGE

Very pleasant spring weather favoured the 60 members who visited the Grange, home of Captain Charles Sturt, on Wednesday 13 November. The Sturt family home was built in 1840/41 and was one of the earliest homes built in the district. It also had the distinction of being constructed of brick and was deemed by Sturt as the most English looking residence in the colony.

Today it sits in a very attractive setting with sweeping lawns, gardens and shady trees and in close proximity to water and reed beds. On arrival members were greeted with morning tea under a shady marquee and then took part in guided tours of the house, the museum and the gardens.

During lunch we were treated with the story of Sturt’s inland expedition of 1844/45 by Grange volunteer Paul Hilbig. It was a worthy conclusion to a very pleasant outing where we learnt much in a hands-on way about Captain Charles Sturt and the significant contribution he made to South Australia’s early years.

The period furniture and accoutrements in each of the rooms recreated an authentic environment for this family home of the 1840s whilst the garden had been developed to reflect Sturt’s love of gardening and interest in horticulture. Members found much to interest them in the museum section which highlighted key aspects of Sturts life and his 2 major expeditions.
Junior Pioneers, members of their family, and PASA members all shared a most enjoyable and instructive Sunday afternoon at Urrbrae House on 20 October. The beautifully restored house built in 1889 for Peter and Matilda Waite and their family, and set within a very attractive spring garden, was the perfect setting for the PASA visitors.

On arrival the PASA visitors were welcomed by guides dressed as characters from the House during its heyday; Mrs Waite, the Housekeeper, the Governess and Miss Waite were all there to introduce us to the House and take us on a guided tour. The tour included opportunities to take part in a range of hands on activities which brought the past to life including:

- Card making in the Drawing Room
- Playing several pianos and a harmonium [Ryan played every piano including wowing his audience on the Yamaha C7 Concert Grand Piano in the ballroom]
- School room activities organised by the Governess which included pen and nib exercises [Dymphia Bailey remembered this skill from 80 years ago!]
- Singing “God Save the Queen” (Victoria of course!)

Whilst in the House we noticed the impressive and spacious dining room which contained the original wooden oak sideboard. We also noticed the downstairs rooms were cooler; a great place in the summer.

Moving outside into the beautiful spring garden, the Juniors enjoyed completing the Sensory Garden worksheet before exploring the Labyrinth and the Arboretum. High Tea was enjoyed by everyone under the shade of a Chinese Elm tree. Everyone, both young and old, agreed that the afternoon at Urrbrae House had been full of interest and most enjoyable and made more so by the beauty of the House and its gardens.

[compiled from a report by Caroline Hewitson]
A party of 55 PASA members visited the western Fleurieu Peninsula for 3 days from 29-31 October using the Terry Resort at Wirrina as their base. The visit took in historic sites from Rapid Bay to Yankalilla and from Normanville to Myponga visiting churches, historic memorials, cemeteries and lookouts with magnificent coastal views. As with recent PASA trips, this visit to the western Fleurieu was packed with new learnings and experiences and included hospitable interaction with local history groups. Members enjoyed each other’s company, stories were exchanged, and new friendships formed.

A full report of the visit from tour coordinator David Forsaith appears in the Summer Journal which will reach you next week. The photos on this page from Sue Fox give you a glimpse of this very successful and enjoyable 3 day event.

The Summer edition of PASA’s journal, The Pioneer, is being posted from the Office this week. It should reach your letter box early next week.