**JUNE-JULY**

**Tues 30 June:** Reopening of PASA Office; regular volunteers return.

**Tues 14 July:** Members and visitors can now attend the PASA Office. Meetings and Workshops may resume. (see pages 1-2 for details)

**SEPTEMBER**

**Monday 21 September:** PASA AGM, venue and arrangements to be advised.

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**PASA OFFICE TO REOPEN**

*Message from PASA President David Forsaith*

I hope that you and your family have been well during the past three months and that you have adjusted to the social restrictions that have been in place. I am pleased that we are now able to plan for the future and look forward to seeing you at some of our events.

The South Australian Government has begun easing the lockdown restrictions that have been in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and the PASA Council has been working towards reopening the PASA office. A COVID-Safe Plan has been developed in accordance with government regulations and it will be tested by our regular volunteers when they officially return to the Office as from Tuesday 30 June. The PASA office will reopen for members and visitors on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10am and 2pm commencing Tuesday 14 July and meetings organised by special interest groups can recommence as from this date too.

Upon arriving at the Office, you will be briefed on the health measures in place. The main features of the PASA Office COVID-Safe Plan are explained on page 2 of this newsletter. The plan will be updated as government rules change over time. PASA will organise a new program of events over coming months although they will take place in a more restricted environment than in the past because of social distancing and health requirements.

David Forsaith

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**Editorial**

It’s good news that the easing of COVID restrictions has led to the reopening of the PASA Office. Details of the reopening arrangements and the COVID-Safe Plan are included in this newsletter. This reopening means that our regular volunteers can return to the Office to carry out the business of the Association and it’s also a sign that member meetings, workshops and activities, albeit with some restrictions, can be planned for the latter part of this year.

The emphasis on the reopening arrangements in this newsletter has meant that some articles submitted by members have been held over for future editions.

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**IT’S TIME!**

Annual subscriptions are now due.

Annual subscription fees are due on 1 July and can now be paid. An invoice (yellow sheet) for your fees was included as an insert in the recent June Journal. The fees for 2020/21 will remain the same as the past few years being $55 for single Members and Associates and $85 where 2 members live at the same address.

Once again there is a **Prompt Payment Discount of $5 per membership category for fees paid by 31 July**. Fees can be paid by direct funds transfer, by cheque or money order or in person by cash (once the Office is re-opened on 14 July). Payment methods are explained on the yellow invoice.

Special THANKS to those who have already paid and to the members who have made a donation.
PASA Office COVID-Safe Plan

What volunteers, members and visitors need to know

The Plan
The Plan outlines the measures in place to minimise the risk of the spread of COVID-19 to those who attend the PASA office. The required elements of the Plan have been forwarded to the South Australian Government.

Timing
As outlined in Upcoming Events on page 1 of this newsletter.

Before Coming to the Office: Advice for volunteers, members, and visitors.

- Be aware of COVID-19 symptoms and stay at home if you are unwell.
- Currently a maximum of 15 persons allowed in the Office (NB this may be increased as restrictions ease)
- Regular volunteers will receive training in the requirements of the Plan prior to attending the Office.
- BYO own food and snacks as these will not be provided.
- For your personal safety and the safety of others, you are encouraged to download the COVID-Safe App onto your phone and have a current flu vaccination.

On Arrival at the Office

- You will be greeted outside the entrance door by a reminder in the form of a STOP sign (see copy in next column below)
- Hand sanitiser provided for hand hygiene.
- You will be briefed on the health measures employed in the Office and your Responsibilities to the Plan.
- The Office Attendance Register is completed, and your signature is an indication that you have been informed of the requirements of entry to the PASA Office.

In the Office: What you need to know

Social Distancing

- A maximum of 15 people allowed in the room at any time.
- Keep your distance, a minimum of 1.5 metres between people.
- One person to use the kitchen at a time.
- Furniture arranged to allow for social distancing.

Hygiene

- Volunteers and visitors to be personally responsible for hand hygiene.
- Regular volunteers to be responsible for workspace cleanliness.
- Food/snacks will not be provided by PASA, volunteers and visitors to BYO.
- Sanitising dispensers, wipes and cleaning materials will be readily available to support the hygiene measures.

Disposable cups and utensils will be provided for tea/coffee making with ingredients supplied by PASA.

Signage

A range of signage will be displayed throughout the Office as a reminder of the hygiene and social distancing requirements of the Plan.

Update of the Plan

The COVID-Safe Plan for the Office will; be reviewed and updated as Government rules change. Please regularly check this newsletter and PASA’s Website and Facebook for any updates.

STOP

Please DO NOT enter if ...

you are experiencing flu like symptoms, or
you have recently travelled overseas, or
you suspect you have COVID-19 / CORONA virus, or
have come into contact with a person who has COVID-19 / CORONA virus.
For assistance phone your GP or hospital
I stepped on my scales this morning and it appears that being quarantined isn’t flattening my curve.

With the PASA AGM to be held in September, NOW is the time to consider whether you are interested in nominating for one of several vacant positions on the 2020/21 PASA Council. The Council is responsible for the leadership and management of the Association and fresh blood is needed at this critical time to help guide PASA’s future.

Nominations for the 2020/21 Council must be received by 10 August which gives you good time to check out both the role of Councillors and the nomination process. Enquiries can be made via email or phone to the PASA Office.

Have you responded to the request on the cover sheet of the recent PASA Journal “The Pioneer” to check and confirm your phone and email details? During the past few months while we have been working more remotely, we have discovered inaccuracies and omissions in our membership records particularly current email addresses and phone numbers. This may be because these details were not required when you joined PASA or because you have changed your contact details recently.

Could ALL members please check your currently held contact details printed on the back of the posting sheet (white) of the recent Journal and advise the PASA Office by email or phone of any updates/changes. If you have lost the posting sheet, then just provide your current details so that they can be checked against our records.

Thanks to all those who have already advised of changes. As a result of this feedback we have added over 50 extras to the email list for this newsletter, so welcome to all those new readers.

An invitation to all family historians, especially those who have attended the PASA writing workshops. The Editor of The Pioneer is eagerly awaiting contributions for the Journal. Articles are invited from 1000 to 2000 words for publication.

Editorial assistance is available to anyone who would like to participate in furthering the history of our pioneers and their families.

Please contact the Editor, Peter Brinkworth via the PASA Office.
SAME SHIPS PROJECT
Arousing interest on Facebook

A recent article on the Same Ships Project placed on Facebook listed the 42 colonial ships that the project is currently researching. It raised much interest with over 40 responses wanting to share their connections with these ships and provide information about their ancestors. A high proportion of the respondents proved to be potential new members of the Association and these leads are all being followed up. This has been a great response via social media.

With the reopening of the Office, Same Ships meetings are likely to recommence at some stage in the not too distant future; look for an announcement in the July newsletter.

PASA’S DONATION WELL SPENT

In 2018 PASA donated $1000 towards the restoration of the grave of well-known and influential pioneer settler Osmond Gilles. The good news is that our donation has been well used and the restoration has been completed. The following article and photos have been supplied by Ross Both of the Burnside Historical Society which conceived and organised the project.

CAN YOU HELP?

PASA Member Leni Palk needs information on Henry Heylen (snr)

My great grandfather was Henry Heylen (snr). He worked for Mrs Elizabeth M Perryman who traded as Perryman & Co, a watchmaking and jewellery business in King William Street, Adelaide. He had a close relationship with Mrs Perryman’s daughter, also called Elizabeth, and he ultimately bought out her interest in the business following her mother’s death in 1905.

I have quite a bit of information about Elizabeth junior, who lived in Fullarton (which she sold in 1912) and then in Hyde Park on the corner of Westall Street and Commercial Road, and died there (1863-?) Probate of her will was granted in Jan/Feb 1932), but as she died a spinster without children it is difficult to find much more. She had a brother, Frederick, who had some form of disability and died in 1905.

I intend writing an article/book and would be very interested to find more information about Miss Perryman.

Leni Palk  lenip.main@gmail.com

“Before”: OG’s grave in a dilapidated state

“In 2013 the Burnside Historical Society (BHS) commenced a project to have the grave of Osmond Gilles restored. The grave, which is located in the West Terrace Cemetery is a heritage site, and as such restoration work was required to follow detailed specifications prepared by the heritage advisor to the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority. In order to fund the project, BHS began applying for grants and seeking donations from a range of organisations and individuals. A generous donation of $1,000 by the Pioneers Association was greatly appreciated.

By late 2019 sufficient funds had been raised for a contract to be signed with S.D. Tillett Memorials. Work commenced in February 2020 and was completed in late May. See the “after” photo below) A bronze plaque is now being added at the
site which will provide brief information about Osmond Gilles as well as acknowledgment of the funds and donations which made the restoration possible. (PASA is listed on the plaque. Ed) A formal gathering at the grave site to celebrate the restoration is being planned for late September.”

“After”: OG’s grave fully restored

**TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

May Answer.

The May Test posed the question about when and where Adelaide’s first horse racing meeting was held. To find the answer we refer to that old standby the Manning Index of South Australian History which records that ‘the infant colony’s first horse race meeting took place on a paddock at Thebarton” on 1 and 2 of January 1838. The chief organiser of the meeting was the Resident Commissioner, James Hurtle Fisher who was well supported by Colonel William Light, Dr Cotter, John Morphett, Samuel Stephens, and Dr Wright. An improvised track was cleared in the vicinity of the current day police barracks. The meeting was attended by 800 people which was a third of Adelaide’s population at the time. A contemporary observer of the day recorded:

“On the first of January 1838 Adelaide left for a while its speculative orgy in town acres... neglected for a day the evolution of a town and sought surcease on a gum-studded plain... ‘down near the river’. Thither... were ridden matted-coated ‘nags’ from small farms and outstations as far afield as the Para, island horses shipped at pain and risk from Van Diemen’s Land and sturdy-muscled hacks which had come down from the overland route with Hawdon, Bonney and Eyre. There were no aristocracy of blood or looks. They were innocent of pedigree and some were as many cornered as a wagonette.

Booths for refreshments and dancing were erected, and every attention was paid to render the affair worthy of those fond of the sport, which was excellent.”

**In another twist to the answer** our keen-eyed President, on one of his “fitness” walks during the COVID 19 lockdown, noticed this sign (below) entitled “Victoria Park: The first racecourse in Adelaide”. The sign is located on Dequetteville Terrace, adjacent to the historic grandstand of the old Victoria Park Racecourse.

The interpretive sign at the old Victoria Park Racecourse with the heritage grandstand in the background.

The sign claims that the first official horse race meeting was held here in 1846 and points out that the heritage grandstand (built in 1882) is “an impressive structure” and “represents an important use of decorative cast iron in a non-domestic sense”.

Our determined President then followed up on the 1846 date to find a reference in the “Adelaide Observer” of Saturday 29 November 1845 (below).
where his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Colonel Robe, “gave over to the Stewards of the Adelaide Races the entire right of that portion of the Parklands heretofore used as a race course” (see extract above) And so the first official race meeting was held at Victoria Park on the 1 and 2 January 1846.

In the starter’s hands c1850. Likely to be at Victoria Park. JM Skipper, Art Gallery SA
Taken from page161 SA Illustrated.

June Question

This month’s questions are related to the image below and should be straightforward for those readers who know their Adelaide history. The image (below) from 1906 is of members of the SA Mounted Police riding their traditional greys and on parade at their city barracks (still standing today). The SA Police Force is the oldest centrally controlled police service in Australia and one of the oldest in the world.

June Questions:

1. In which year was the SA Police Force formed?

2. Where is the parade ground and barracks shown in the photo located?

The hardest question during isolation?

Did you get caught out during the isolation period not knowing what day it was? Embarrassing? The remedy is in this newly promulgated regulation below:

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE THE DAYS OF THE WEEK ARE NOW CALLED, THISDAY, THATDAY, OTHERDAY, SOMEDAY, YESTERDAY, TODAY & NEXTDAY!

A RARE MOMENT

Pictured together are 8 of the past 9 Presidents of PASA at the opening of the Association’s new Office in Harmer House, 19 November 2019.

L-R David Forsaith, Bob Stace, Lyn Gill, Jenny Neill, Pam Skurray, Bob Allan, Deane Kemp, and Jeff Nicholas

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