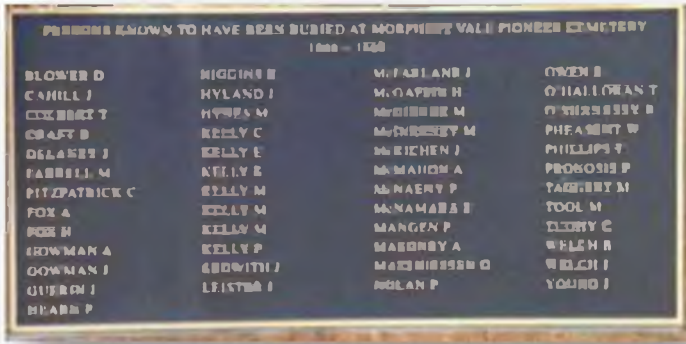


# An Energetic Irish Farmer who died too Soon



Edward Owen(s) acknowledged on the Morphett Vale Pioneer Cemetery Memorial Stone Plaque

In 1838 agricultural labourer Edward Owens from Roscommon, Ireland married Cecilia Kelly in Sheffield, England, where they had moved in search of employment after the decline of the flax/linen industry. They sailed to Adelaide as assisted immigrants with infant son Patrick on the *Baboo* from Liverpool, arriving in March 1840.

**Edward OWENS** (1810 - 1853)

&

**Cecilia KELLY** (1815 - 1853)

Married on 15 Feb 1838 in Catholic Chapel, Sheffield, England

Departed 24 Nov 1839 from Liverpool, England

Arrived 11 Mar 1840 at Port Adelaide, South Australia on the

*Baboo*

Children of Edward & Cecilia:

Patrick (1839 - 1912) m Bridget DONOHUE

Dominik (1842 - 1920) m Mary WELLER

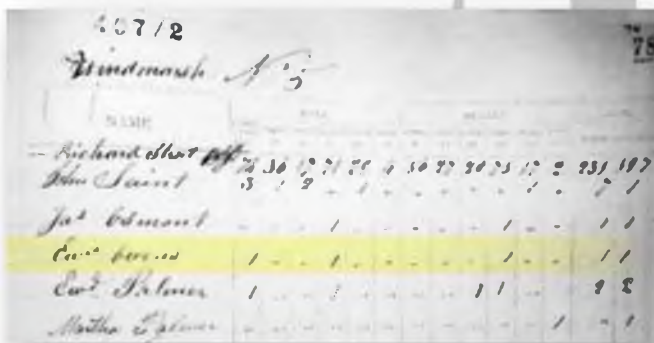
Michael (1844 - 1845)

George (1846 - 1846)

Mary Jane (1848 - 1876) never married

James (1850 - 1896) m Mary SHIBELLA

Lucy Mary Cecilia (1852 - 1934) m Phillip Henry BARNES



Edward Owens listed in the 1841 South Australian Census

Baby Patrick was in the first group of Catholics baptized in the Colony on 6 July 1840 by Bishop Ullathorne who was visiting from Sydney.

The family resided at Hindmarsh until 1845 where Edward worked first as a carter and then a farmer. In 1845, he bought eighteen acres at Happy Valley, on the corner of South and Candy Roads at the price of £27, which he sold in 1853 for £51.

He was mentioned in newspapers on three different occasions: fined for feeding his oxen on Hindley Street, as a witness in a hide theft in Hindmarsh and when he sued his Happy Valley neighbour for assault (resulting) in the judge awarding him 1 guinea in damages. The newspaper report of the latter states:

*"His Worship ...expressed his regret that neighbours could not agree better (and) was sorry that the place (Happy Valley) scarcely deserved its name.... The complainant, elated with his success, became quite energetic, and after indulging in gesticulations amounting to an assault, he retired, evidently satisfied that 'the law's revenge' was more consistent with his religion than forgiveness of trespasses".*

In 1849 Edward leased seventy acres adjoining the Sturt River, and purchased it in June 1853 for £150, which was earned at the goldfields in Victoria.

But tragedy struck. Cecilia died in January 1853 aged 38, while Edward died later that year after being admitted to the Adelaide Hospital with a broken femur: he was only 43. They left five children, aged between one and fourteen, who were looked after by Cecilia's sisters who had also settled in Adelaide. Sadly the eldest boys feature in Destitute Asylum records in 1854. The land on the Sturt River was kept in trust for the children until 1876. Four of the children eventually settled in the northern parts of South Australia and also Broken Hill, while a married daughter remained in Adelaide.

Edward and Cecilia are buried at the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery, St. Marys Roman Catholic Church on South Road, Morphett Vale.

From information provided by Lewis Owens, Edward Owens' great, great grandson. March 2018







St Marys Church, Morphett Vale, South Australia

## One of the Five Kelly Sisters of Ballinasloe

Cecilia Owens (née Kelly) was one of five daughters of Dominick and Lucinda (Lucy) Kelly. The family came from the village of Ballinasloe, which is situated at a crossing point of the River Suck in the centre of Ireland. Between 1837 and 1843 Dominick and Lucy, all five daughters and possibly a son, James, bravely travelled half way around the world to South Australia.

Isabella was the first of the girls to arrive, with her husband Hugh Kenihan, in 1837. Possibly this successful move to Adelaide encouraged her four sisters and parents to also decide to undertake the journey to the new colony.

Cecilia, the second sister to emigrate, came with her husband Edward and infant son Patrick, arriving in March 1840. They had married in Sheffield, England in 1838 where they both found work after the flax linen industry in Ireland seriously declined.

In October 1842 Cecilia's parents and daughter Lucy arrived on the *Alpha* from Portland Bay.

Two more sisters arrived on the *Emma* from Sydney in November 1843. Mary travelled with her husband Michael McDermott and their three children. Accompanying them was Ellen Kelly. All the sisters were now reunited.

Cecilia and Edward first settled in Hindmarsh. Through hard work they were able to purchase eighteen acres of land in Happy Valley, on the NE corner of South and Candy Road in 1845. Edward farmed while Cecilia supported him and managed the household which included looking after the children. More land was leased in 1849, and Cecilia managed both properties when Edward travelled to the Victorian goldfields. Between their marriage in 1838 and 1852 she bore seven children, the last born while Edward was in Victoria. Two did not survive infancy.

In January 1853 Cecilia died, and tragically Edward followed in December, both being buried at the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery at St Marys Roman Catholic Church, Morphett Vale. Their five orphaned children were looked after by Cecilia's sisters, particularly Mary and Ellen.

**Cecilia KELLY** (1815 - 1853)

&

**Edward OWENS** (1810 - 1853)

Married on 15 Feb 1838 in Catholic Chapel, Sheffield, England

Departed 24 Nov 1839 from Liverpool, England

Arrived 11 Mar 1840 at Port Adelaide, South Australia on the

*Baboo*

Children of Cecilia & Edward:

Patrick (1839 - 1912) m Bridget DONOHUE

Dominik (1842 - 1920) m Mary WELLER

Michael (1844 - 1845)

George (1846 - 1846)

Mary Jane (1848 - 1876) never married

James (1850 - 1896) m Mary SHIBELLA

Lucy Mary Cecilia (1852 - 1934) m Phillip Henry BARNES

*The everyday lives of pioneer women are largely unrecorded but we must remember the significant contributions they made to society.*

From information provided by Lewis Owens, Cecilia Owens' great, great, grandson. March 2018



# His Name is Remembered in Happy Valley



*'The Braes' where Hugh Kenihan died*

**Hugh KENIHAN** (1802 - 1893)

&

**Isabella KELLY** (1812 - 1878)

Married July 1836 in Sheffield, England

Departed 26 Aug 1837 from Gravesend,  
London, England

Arrived 6 Dec 1837 at Port Adelaide, South  
Australia on the

*Navarino*

Children of Hugh & Isabella:

John Thomas (1837 - 1862) m Catherine  
CONNOLLY

Martin (1839 - 1884) m Catherine REGAN

Margaret Ellen (1841 - 1913) m James  
FITZPATRICK

Michael Joseph (1842 - 1913) m Elizabeth  
PEARSON

Mary Anne (1845 - 1924) m Elisha MANUEL

Catherine Madgalene (1846 - 1906) m John GILES

Lucy Isabella (1847 - 1940) m Phillip TEARE

James John (1849 - 1891) unmarried

Hubert John (1851 - 1884) m Elizabeth CLARKE

Irish labourer Hugh Kenihan applied at Sheffield, England for an assisted passage to South Australia in early 1837. Accompanying him was his wife Isabella, the first of five Kelly sisters from Ireland who came to Adelaide, and infant son John Thomas. They arrived on the *Navarino* in December 1837.

With his thick Irish brogue, his name was variously recorded as Haan, Keenan, Kenihan, Keenahan or Kenahan, but the name Kenihan was finally settled on.

The family first resided in Hindmarsh, where Hugh helped to build some of the first wattle and daub cottages in which the early settlers lived. He is recorded as having helped build a house of reeds for Governor Hindmarsh on the banks of the Torrens before the more substantial Government House was constructed.

By the early 1840s, Hugh owned parcels of land in Hindmarsh and Walkerville. He owned a lime kiln at Hindmarsh, lime being in great demand for building mortar and render. He sold the kiln in the mid-1840s to go farming in Happy Valley, purchasing a further one hundred and sixty acres in Noarlunga in 1847. Between 1839 and 1851 eight children were born to Hugh and Isabella. All nine of their children survived infancy.

Like many of his contemporaries, Hugh went to the Victorian goldfields with relatives in the early 1850s and achieved moderate success. He sent twenty two ounces of gold to Isabella under police escort in July 1852.

When he returned to South Australia he continued to farm at Happy Valley. In 1893, when his land was to be acquired for the new reservoir, he moved to nearby Reynella just a few days before his death. He passed away at his son Michael's residence '*The Braes*' at the age of 91 years. Isabella had died in 1878.

Hugh was described in his obituary in the *Southern Cross* newspaper as 'a fine type of the old colonists who could tell many interesting anecdotes of the early days in South Australia.'

He was survived by one son, four daughters, fifty grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. He was buried at St Marys RC Church, Morphett Vale.

Kenihans Road, Happy Valley is named in his honour.

*From information provided by Lewis Owens, Isabella and Hugh Kenihan's great, great, grand-nephew. March 2018*







Mary Ann - Eldest daughter of Ambrose and Elizabeth

# The Pioneer Shoemaker and Citizen of Hindmarsh

Descended from a French Huguenot family of weavers, Ambrose Vardon was born in 1817 in Middlesex.

Ambrose, a shoemaker, married Elizabeth Painter in 1838 at Marylebone, Middlesex, where their first child Mary Ann was born and baptised in 1839.

They applied successfully for an assisted passage on the *Moffatt* which sailed from London on August 26, 1839. Tragically two adults and eighteen children perished on the voyage, including Elizabeth's sister Mary Ann who died of fever. The young ship's doctor was roundly criticised for his lack of skills.

Ambrose initially found work as a labourer in North Adelaide, but they later moved to Hindmarsh, where the family lived in a two-roomed brick cottage with a lean-to.

By 1847 Ambrose and Elizabeth had six surviving children under the age of seven, with Elizabeth Jane having died in infancy. In 1848 Elizabeth gave birth to a second set of twins, she had borne five children in less than three years. A public appeal for benevolence to support the family in their "straitened circumstances" was undertaken. Elizabeth gave birth to a total of eleven children, three of whom did not reach adulthood.

The industrious Ambrose became engaged in local affairs as a founding member and office-holder of the local Independent Order of Oddfellows, a founding director of the Bowden and Brompton Building Society and auditor for many organisations. His position as secretary of the Hindmarsh Volunteers gave him a small supportive stipend. He successfully lobbied for the formation of the District Council and (later) Corporation of Hindmarsh and was heavily involved in the life of local churches, particularly All Saints' Church at Hindmarsh,

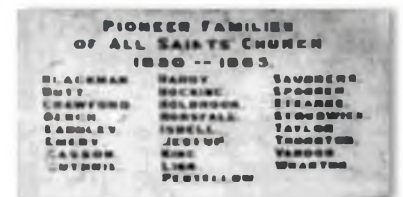
where he was a paid verger between 1853 and 1855.

Ambrose was also socially active, attending pioneers' banquets and frequently singing or acting at local entertainment functions.

The couple's son Joseph became a well-known printer and publisher, Mayor of Hindmarsh, member of the state legislature and Senator for South Australia.

Ambrose and Elizabeth both died in 1883.

They were laid to rest at the Hindmarsh Cemetery.



## Ambrose Edward VARDON

(1817 - 1883)

&

## Elizabeth PAINTER

(1816 - 1883)

Married on 3 Jun 1838 in Marylebone, London, England

Departed 26 Aug 1839 from London, England

Arrived 19 Dec 1839 at Port Adelaide, South Australia on the

### *Moffatt*

Children of Ambrose & Elizabeth:

Mary Ann (1839 - 1905) m Frederick MALLETT

Isabella (1840 - 1898) m Charles MINSON

Elizabeth Jane (1842 - 1843)

Joseph (1843 - 1913) m Mary Ann PICKERING

James (1846 - 1905) m Sybil WHARTON

John (1846 - 1924) m Mary WHARTON

Eliza (1847 - 1849)

Lydia (1848 - 1926) m William ARMSTRONG

Thomas (1848 - 1915) m Nancy KELSALL

Jane (1850 - 1925) m William STEARNE

Louise (1854 - 1854)

*From information provided by Alison Hicks, Ambrose and Elizabeth Vardon's great grand-daughter. March 2018*





Martha Jane – daughter of John and Mary Ann

**John PAINTER Snr** (c1795 - ?)

&

**Mary Ann GRINSTEAD**

(1796 - 1845)

Married on 22 Nov 1814 at Hanover Square, London, England

Departed 4 Apr 1840 from London, England

Arrived 7 July 1840 at Port Adelaide, South Australia on the

*Fairlie*

Children of John & Mary Ann:

Elizabeth (1816 - 1883) m Ambrose Edward VARDON

William (1817 - 1883) m Marian McCLOUD

John Jnr (1820 - ?)

Mary Ann (1822 - 1839)

Martha Jane (1826 - 1908) m Henry Oak SILKE

Charles (1829 - 1838)

Susannah (1832 - 1887) m George BEAMS

Robert (1838 - 1840)

## He Tried his Hand at Many Trades

John Painter, born around 1795, married Mary Ann Grinstead in 1814 at St George's Church in Hanover Square, Middlesex. Between 1816 and 1838, Mary Ann bore eight children. During this time the family lived in London, Dorset and Arundel, Sussex. On the children's baptismal records John's occupation was variously recorded as 'porter, servant and butler'.

John and Mary Ann's three older children, Elizabeth, William and Mary Ann, had sailed to Adelaide on the *Moffat* in 1839, after gaining assisted passages. Unfortunately, daughter Mary Ann died of fever on the journey.

When applying in 1840 for an assisted passage to South Australia, John gave his occupations as 'brewer, baker, gardener and farmer'. Such a range of experience was clearly an advantage for anyone immigrating at that time to the new colony. John was granted passage with Mary Ann and their three youngest surviving children on the *Fairlie*, which arrived at Port Adelaide on 9 Dec 1840. Their son Robert seems not to have survived the 90-day voyage, on which a number of children died.

No doubt John and Mary Ann's decision to emigrate in 1840 was motivated by a desire to reunite the family. On arrival they would have been greeted with the news of Mary-Ann's death, and this coupled with the sad loss of Robert, would have made a heartbreaking time for the family.

After their arrival in Adelaide, John and Mary Ann Painter took up residence in Gilbert Street, where John found work as 'messenger, porter, shoemaker and gardener'. He was nothing if not versatile, a trait which apparently served him well during the early years of the colony.

Mary Ann died prematurely in 1845 of 'enlargement of the heart' and is buried in West Terrace Cemetery.

By the 1850s, John was living in Thebarton. He was signatory to a request by West Torrens electors supporting Major O'Halloran's candidature for the Legislative Council. No evidence of John's death has been found.

*From information provided by Alison Hicks, John and Mary Painter's great, great, grand-daughter. March 2018*







*Rofe & Son Carriers*

# *A Carrier who Embraced Methodism*

James Rofe was born in 1823 at Cranbrook, Kent which is some 43 miles south east of London.

Together with his parents, James and Mary and five siblings, the family emigrated on the *Charles Kerr* leaving London on 6 March 1840. They arrived at Port Adelaide on 17 June 1840. The family eventually settled to farm at Gilles Plains.

James was seventeen when he arrived and in early 1845, at twenty two, he married Eliza Gillard at Holy Trinity Church Adelaide. Eliza was a year younger and had been born in Gwennap, Cornwall. Along with her widowed mother, Eliza had arrived in the colony just months before James.

Four years later, aged 24, Eliza died in what were probably complications during childbirth. She bore James four children during their marriage. James then married Jane Williams (1831 - 1900), who bore him a further fifteen children.

The family moved to Port Adelaide where James managed a carrying and transport firm. He acquired a financial interest in the business and eventually bought out his partners. For a while, Rofe & Co was the biggest carrying firm in the colony.

He was a resident of Port Adelaide for nearly forty-six years. As a prominent Methodist, he took a special interest in the local Methodist Church. For over thirty years he was the Superintendent of the Sunday school, Treasurer of the Church Trust and a Circuit Steward.

On three occasions he served the ratepayers as a Councillor on the Port Adelaide Town Council.

Jane died in 1900 and James died on 2 March 1909, aged 86, at Lipson St, Port Adelaide. He was buried in the Walkerville Wesleyan Cemetery.



Three years after his death, the James Rofe Memorial Pipe Organ was dedicated in recognition of his contributions to the Port Adelaide Methodist Church over many years. Miss Helena Harvey, a young, kind and compassionate soprano sang 'O Divine Redeemer'. She was later to become my grandmother.

*From information provided by John Kleinig, James Rofe's great, great, grandson. March 2018*

## James ROFE

(c1823 - 1909)

Departed 6 Mar 1840 from London, England

Arrived 17 Jun 1840 at Port Adelaide on the

## *Charles Kerr*

Married

[1] Eliza Gillard (c1825 - 1849) on 5 Jan 1845 in Holy Trinity Church, Adelaide

[2] Jane Williams (c1831 - 1900)

Married Circa 1850-51, place unknown.

### Children of & James and Eliza:

William Henry (1846 - 1846)

James George (1847 - 1897) m Clara Emma BUTLER

Joseph Gillard (1847 - 1847)

John Thomas (1849 - 1849)

### Children of James and Jane:

Sarah Haddy (1852 - 1935) m Charles D ADAMS

Jonathon (1854 - 1855)

Jabez Jonathon (1855-1855)

Hester Ann (1856-1878) m John Stanley PHILLIPS

Mary Jane (1858-1924) m Samuel PERRY

Samuel John (1860 - 1860)

Emily Williams (1861 - 1883)

Selina Alice (1863 - 1947)

Henry Thomas (1864 - 1865)

William Taylor (1865 - 1947) m Jane FERTCH

Jemima (1867 - 1867)

Walter Lawry (1869 - 1939) m Rebecca Ellen WARD

Edith Matilda (1870-1871)

James G (1871)

Alfred Ernest (1872-1872)



# From Yorkshire to Yankalilla

*"So farewell,  
Yours for ever,  
Ann Brook"*

These were the sad words that ended Ann Brook's letter to her sister, Mary, just prior to leaving Shepley, Yorkshire in 1846. Ann, her husband John, and their three children Martha, Frederick and Mark had been granted free passage for South Australia.

Considerable excitement was caused by the arrival of their ship *Hooghly* and three other vessels at Port Adelaide on the 24th October, 1846. There was a huge demand for labour and the arrival of nearly 400 people was most welcome. John Brook brought with him a diverse range of talents. In Yorkshire, he had worked as a clothier and innkeeper, but it was probably his skills as a mason and quarryman that were most in demand in the young colony.

Soon after landing, the Brook family moved south to the Yankalilla district, where John leased land from Matthew Jagger, a Yorkshireman from Holmfirth, and birthplace of John. Matthew owned the land, known as The Basin in Dairy Flat (later Torrens Vale). John, as the leaseholder of this land, began raising cattle. Since The Basin was formed by the upper reaches of the Yankalilla River, there was a plentiful supply of water for stock and household use. The Brook family home was the first to be built in the Dairy Flat district.

John Brook also gained employment with George Sara, a well-known builder from Willunga, erecting bridges throughout the south.

John and Ann Brook lived at The Basin for the remainder of their lives, with son Frederick taking over the farming as John grew older. Following their deaths, they were buried in a public cemetery on Cockatoo Hill near Dairy Flat, the site now returned to grazing land.

An interesting legacy of John Brook is the use by descendants of the name Brook as a Christian name.

*From information provided by Pat Uppill, John and Ann Brook's great, great, grand-daughter.  
March 2018*



*Nine Elms Railway station, the Brook family's departure point from London for Southampton*

## John BROOK

(1804 - 1884)

&

## Ann HIRST

(1798 - 1875)

Married on 19 Oct 1835 in Wakefield, Yorkshire, England

Departed 3 Jul 1846 from Plymouth, England

Arrived 24 Oct 1846 at Port Adelaide, South Australia on the

## *Hooghly*

Children of John & Ann:

Martha (1837 - 1902) m [1] George SHANNON  
[2] Robert JAGGER

Frederick (1840) - (1922) m Louisa ROGERS

Mark Wells (1842) - (1880) m Mary DIPROSE



*The Hooghly 1840  
Courtesy SLISA B-26873*







Henry Lewis

# A Man of Many Parts: Butcher, Hotelier, Stock Trader and Farmer

Henry Lewis was born in 1822 in Woodham Ferrers, Essex, the fourth son of farmer John Lewis. Henry left England for Australia following the death of his father. He arrived c1842, but his means of travel is unclear.

Henry commenced a butchering business in Rundle Street and eventually secured a slaughtering licence in 1849. In the same year he married Catherine Ryan, a widow, in St Patrick's Church, Adelaide. She already had four children, and between 1850 and 1860, they had seven more together.

In 1850, the family moved to the Victorian goldfields, where Henry operated a successful store, before returning to settle in

Macclesfield. During 1853 – 1868 he was the licensee of the Davenport Arms Hotel, Macclesfield (now the Three Brothers Arms).



*The Davenport Arms Hotel 1869*

He began to deal in stock, securing prizes for cattle at the Strathalbyn Agricultural Show. In 1872, he assisted his son Henry (Harry) and his nephew Arthur John Lewis (the writer's great grandfather) to establish a butchering business in Strathalbyn.

In 1872, Henry purchased the Macclesfield Brewery, and in 1873 won the gold medal at the International Exhibition in London, for its Macclesfield Ale. He sold the brewery in 1877. He then moved to Oaklands near Yorketown, Yorke Peninsula to farm for several years before returning to Adelaide to resume stock trading and to exhibit successfully at the Royal Adelaide Show.

Henry helped to establish the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows in the colony and was one of the founders of the Macclesfield School.

He died in April 1892, aged 70 years and is buried in the West Terrace Cemetery, while Catherine died in 1901, aged 84 years.

His surviving sons achieved success. Harry became an hotelier in Adelaide, and John an influential pastoralist in the north-west of the state.

*From information provided by Lewis Owens, great, great, grand-nephew of Henry Lewis Snr. March 2018*

## Henry LEWIS Snr (1822 - 1892)

Departed: Unknown

Arrived: c1842

## Catherine RYAN nee FENTON (c 1817 - 1901)

Married on 17 July 1849 at St Patrick's Church in Adelaide, South Australia

### Children of Henry & Catherine:

Margaret Mary (1850 - 1911) m John CONDON

Henry Jnr (Harry) (1852 - 1911) m Mary JEFFREYS

John (1855 - 1911) m Alexandrina Helena PEARSON

Ellen Magdalen (1856 - 1934) m Charles KELLY

William (1858 - 1865)

Agnes (1858 - 1865) m Alfred KELLY

Eliza Harriet (1860 - 1861)



*St Patrick's Church, Grote Street, Adelaide*

*Courtesy SLSA – B1938*





# A Prosperous Pastoralist Partnership



*Charlton Station near Mount Remarkable, South Australia  
by Gill, Samuel Thomas. (1848).*

From <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-136628430>

## Samuel WHITE Snr

(1814 - 1869)

Departed 7 July 1839 from London,  
England

Arrived 19 Dec 1839 at Port Adelaide,  
South Australia on the

**WILLIAM BARRAS**

## Eliza O'HALLORAN

(1832 - 1915)

Departed 26 April 1840 from London,  
England

Arrived 11 August 1840 at Port Adelaide,  
South Australia on the

**LALLA ROOHK**

Married on 16 June 1853 in St Mary's-  
on-the-Sturt, St Marys, South  
Australia

Children of Samuel & Eliza:

Eliza (1855 - 1925) -unmarried

Margaret (1857 - 1925) - unmarried

Samuel Jnr (1859 - 1914) - unmarried

Joseph Nicholas Bayly (1861 - 1914) - unmarried

Mary Kathleen (1863 - unknown)

Ada Frances Isobel (1865 - 1915) m Henry  
Beresford PENRUDDOCKE

Edward Paget (1866 - unknown)

Montague (1868 - 1920) - unmarried

Brothers Samuel and Frederick White arrived in South Australia in 1839 aboard the *William Barras*, settling initially near Port Lincoln in the area known today as White Flat. In 1844, due to poor conditions and lack of markets they drove their sheep and cattle to near what would become Wirrabara and took out occupational licences. They named their property 'Charlton' after their home in England. As they prospered, they switched from sheep to cattle. In 1851, the occupational licences were converted to leaseholds.

In 1853, Samuel married Eliza O'Halloran at St Mary's-on-the-Sturt, South Road, St Marys which is a Church of England place of worship.

Following the birth of their first child Eliza in 1855, they left 'Charlton' and settled at 'White Park' near Wirrabara Forest, sometimes known as White's Forest. White Park was adjacent to John Bristow Hughes' 'Bundaleer Run', and their friendship was enhanced when Samuel's sister Laura married John's son, Herbert Bristow Hughes.

Before the family returned to live in England, 'Charlton' was sold to Charles B Fisher, who later also bought the 'Bundaleer Run' from John Hughes.

Samuel, Eliza and their three children Eliza, Margaret and Samuel left White Park in 1860 and settled in Dorset, where their next five children were born. Samuel died in 1869 and Eliza in 1915, both in Bath, Somerset. Three of their children (Samuel White Jnr, Joseph White and Ada Penruddocke) pre-deceased Eliza.

The will of Samuel Snr was subject to scrutiny in the Adelaide Civil Court in 1916, ruling that the two Penruddocke infants were entitled to a share of their late mother's estate. It also directed how Eliza's other deceased children's share should be divided. Eliza's youngest brother Edward and her nephew Thomas O'Halloran Giles represented various family members at the hearing.

At times the family used White-White as their surname, especially in legal documents.

*From information provided by Brian O'Halloran,  
Eliza and Samuel White's great, great-nephew.  
March 2018*





*The Wilson Family*

*L-R John, Daisy, Mary (mother), Robert, David Herd (Father) son of Robert Snr, Elizabeth and May*

## Robert HERD aka WILSON Snr (c 1819 - 1862)

&

## Elizabeth SHEPHERD

Married on 30 Jun 1838, Church of Scotland,  
Cupar, Fife, Scotland

Departed 1838 from Ayrshire, Scotland  
Arrived 22 Oct 1838 in Sydney, Australia

## Travelled to Adelaide by 1839

Children of Robert & Elizabeth:

Mary Ann HERD (1839 - 1897) m Andrew LAWSON

Robert HERD Jnr (1842 - 1918) m Eliza MOUNT nee  
WOOLDRIDGE

David HERD (1844 - 1923) m Mary SHEPHERD

Peter WILSON (1846 - 1871)

Elizabeth WILSON (1853 - 1853)

Un-named female WILSON (1857 - 1857)

Augusta WILSON (1860 - 1860)

## A Pioneer of Balhannah

When Robert Herd, who came from the small village Elderslie in Scotland and his new wife Elizabeth came to Australia, their homeland was suffering from devastating economic conditions.

Robert and Elizabeth (known as Betsey) married in June 1838. On the Register of Marriage Robert's occupation is given as 'wright' which meant he was a skilled worker in various trades.

The couple arrived in Sydney in October 1838. It might well have been a sudden decision for them to leave Scotland as it would appear that an acquaintance of Robert's, named Wilson, had a ticket to Australia which he was unable to use, so Robert took the ticket.

After arriving in Sydney, they made their way to Adelaide, arriving by 1839. Their first child, Mary Ann HERD was born in Adelaide on 29 November of that year. Two other children, Robert and David were also given the name HERD. Sometime after David's birth in 1844, Robert began to call himself WILSON, either because it was easier given his papers would have been in that name, or to acknowledge his unexpected opportunity, or both. Therefore their four youngest children were all given the family name of WILSON. Records show their family name evolved from Herd, to Wilson-Herd, then to Herd-Wilson and finally just Wilson. Robert and Betsey first settled in Adelaide but by 1857 had settled in Balhannah.

Robert must have felt the need to further develop his skills, as it is believed he re-trained as a carpenter. Robert's occupation is recorded 'carpenter' on his son Robert Jnr's marriage registration in 1862.

Robert & Betsey resided at Balhannah until Robert's death in 1862. In his death notice it states he was a colonist of twenty four years.



*Elderslie, Robert Herd-Wilson's home town*

*From information provided by Elizabeth Sheppard, Robert Herd-Wilson's great, great, grand-daughter. March 2018*

