



# Relative Thoughts

Volume 22 No. 3

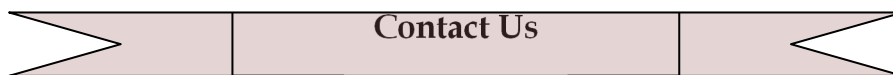
July 2018

**Quarterly Journal of the  
Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.**



These photos show what Graham Redman and David Boyce are doing when they are “training” during the June long weekend. The above photo is Graham’s layout, and the photo below, is part of the layout, from the Model Railway Group that David is associated with.





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FPFHG Facebook Group

View of Witton Bluff on Facebook and websites



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi to All Members,

Welcome to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Journal for 2018.

Since the last Journal, many of our members have enjoyed History Month during May. Once again we were offered an amazing collection of activities to share. History SA and the people of various groups and associations certainly give us a great variety of experiences.

Maybe you attended a presentation, took in a walk, followed a walking tour map experiencing your own commentary or a bus ride around a town or district. I am sure there are many stories out there to be shared. Maybe, you can recommend an activity for others to share in 2019. Chris, our Journal Editor, would love to have your stories for the Journal.

The Resource Room opening days and our general meeting during History Month were well attended by our members and we also had a few visitors at both events.

Late in 2017 we supported a nomination with South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society for our Patron Graham Jaunay to be recommended for an Award for Meritorious Service to Family History. This was awarded to Graham at the 15<sup>th</sup> Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry held in Sydney from 9 to 12 March 2018.

Quote from AFFHO Newsflash # 63: June 2018:

*Graham Jaunay has been a significant player in the Australasian, and in particular, the South Australian genealogy communities as a volunteer since 1994 and he remains a participant to this day. While Graham was also a professional genealogist at this time, it is his generous voluntary services to the genealogy community that is being recognised in the awarding of a Meritorious Service Award today.*

*Graham's activities include being a member of the council of the South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society since 2000 including being President from 2003 to 2005. He has chaired the Publications Committee of the society and was chair of the Future Planning Committee for this society. As well as being very active in the South Australian Society he is now Patron for the Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group. At an Aus-*

*tralasian level, Graham was president of AFFHO from 2002 to 2004 and was Newsflash editor for many years.*

On behalf of the members of the Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group I congratulate Graham on his achievements and success.

Also celebrating an Award for Meritorious Service is an Honorary Member of FPFHG - Cora Num. Members will remember her presentations to the Group or will have used her website *Coraweb*. We also have copies of her publications.

Quote from *AFFHO Newsflash* # 63: June 2018:

*The name Cora Num is well-known to the users of her gateway Coraweb site which commenced in 1997 and today is well recognised as the go to site for Australasian genealogy for its reliability and currency.*

*Cora became a member of the Heraldry and Genealogical Society of Canberra (HAGSOC) in 1981 and was a council member from 1993 to 2009. Cora is a major contributor to HAGSOC's renown (sic.) publication Family History for Beginners and Beyond as well as its companion publication Family History Research Manager. Maintaining her association with HAGSOC she has contributed a segment Hot Sources and Hot Sites to the society's journal from 1995 and this continues.*

*Cora has been a presenter, author and contributor to genealogy and family history in Australia and beyond.*

On behalf of the members of the Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group I congratulate Cora on her achievements and success.

Our recent meetings have been well attended and I am sure all persons present went home with more knowledge on the topics which were presented to us.

Our member Graham Redman spoke of the Battle of Be'er Sheva on 31 October in Israel where Pauline and he honoured some members of their families. Lyndall Simmonds described how to put our family details onto a wonderful chart. She also shared her family history which began in Bendigo. Margaret Morgan spoke about Yankalilla history and early families. We also celebrated Violet Day. Many thanks to Christeen Schoepf for the articles and information we featured at the meeting. For further details read Elizabeth's "Look what you missed" article in this Journal.

Since our last Journal we have also commemorated our Fallen at Dawn services and marches on 25 April. As 2018 commemorates the end of WWI there will be many services to attend on 11 November. Further information later via the me-

dia.

Once again I remind all to use our Resource Room for assistance with your research. The Computing Evening group and the DNA groups are also well attended and informative. I look forward to sharing some of these with you.

I hope you all continue to 'grow' your family tree and learn about your families. Plan your time to share or remember the favourite man in your life on Father's Day on 2 September.

### THE JOURNEY TO EDWARD's BURIAL PLOT

**Pioneer:** EDWARD BACKSHALL 1831–1881

Edward, at approximately 19 years of age, trekked across from Western Australia with his brother John, briefly stopping off at Kalgoorlie and Mount Lofty for a stint of gold mining, before moving on to settle in the area of Normanville and Yankalilla. He met Mary née Hefferon, a young Irish girl, and they went on to marry. Edward bought an allotment and he built a house in which the family was raised, with Edward farming his land with a wheat crop. By this time his brother had moved on and Edward continued his farming and cropping activities in the area, all of which were done by hand and if you were lucky you may have a bullock or two to help clear the land. Families in the area worked together, and crop yields were high in that first few years. During the period 1850–1853, men and young boys left their families behind to make their fortunes in the Ballarat Goldfields. Only very few were successful and most came back to run-down properties and families living in poverty.



Edward stayed at home and worked on trying to provide for his growing family. By late 1860's, the decline of the wheat crop was at its highest, the mine at Talisker, which had helped to support many families in the area, was ceasing operations and then closed in 1871. The population fell by nearly a quarter as families moved to Moonta to live. It was then that the wattle bark

was stripped from the trees, milled and transported out of Normanville by

schooner. This activity provided a small income over a long period of the recession that lasted until the start of the 1900s. Wattle bark was being used in the tanning processing of leather. Households in the area relied very heavily on other families for vegetables, fruit, cows and pigs to feed their own families and sharing was an essential common practice. Yankalilla and Normanville was a very close community, within which Edward was held in very high regard. He actively took up contract to work on the main roads and bridges in the area and sought work as a cartage contractor and worker, beside maintaining his own land holdings and farm. There is evidence of a great relationship with his in-laws and with other families in the area of Normanville and Yankalilla. He appeared to be an “all-round good guy”, helping everyone whenever he could.

Mary married James (Jim) Squires approx. one year after Edward’s passing. Jim was a construction employee and actively worked on many of the jetties around SA. Jim’s great passion was fishing and he was constantly out in his boat. Having moved in with Mary and into the Backshall family home and taken on the responsibility of all the children, he also appears to be a wonderful person. Can you imagine the cry from the children sitting around the kitchen table, “not fish again”, but he showed great bartering skills with other families in the district for a variety of food and goods for his new family. Those children would not have been hungry, unlike many other families from this area who experienced ill health and often dying too young due to the great suffering.

**Our family, people to be proud of  
Rest In Peace – Our Pioneering Forefather**

**A tribute from Great grand-daughters of Edward – Margaret Tickle, Dianne Maiolo, Elizabeth Fairlie, Jeanette Bell and Marilyn Bell.**

Footnote:

A pioneering plaque was unveiled on 21 April 2018 for Edward Backshall at Yankalilla Public Cemetery, along with the re-internment of ashes of his grand-daughters Phyllis May Brown née Backshall and her sister Jean Pride née Backshall and Jean’s husband Frederick Archibald Pride—a *Barwell Boy*, who served his apprenticeship in the Normanville and surrounding area.

## PRESERVING FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS : SCRAPBOOKING

By Sue Wilson

As Family Historian, I found myself keeper of a box of old photos. Who were the people? What relationship were they to me (if any)? How could I best preserve these photographs for my children and grandchildren to enjoy in coming years? No doubt, many readers have been faced with this dilemma, too. Options are numerous. (1) Convert to electronic images by scanning and saving to a hard drive, or distribute by email to key family members, or post on social media. (2) Sort the originals and put them back in the box. (3) Display some images in frames around the house. (4) Preserve the photos in an album for others to enjoy.

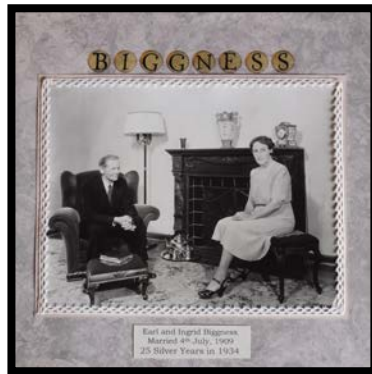


Image 1



Image 2

One of the first photos I came across when I had time to delve into the box (post 2001 retirement) was a photo of my maternal grandparents on their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 1934 (Image 1). The emulsion on the photo was beginning to crack and one corner was “dog-eared”. I wanted to show it to everyone but I didn’t want it damaged any further. I decided to SCRAPBOOK it, and thus started my first family history album.

Scrapbooking uses archivally-friendly materials that are acid-free and lignin-free to display photographs and the like in plastic (non-PVC) sleeves that are then inserted in albums.

To scrapbook a photo, select a piece of contrasting, archivally-safe cardstock (white, black, kraft...) to mat the photo. (A mat for a photo surrounds the picture.) Cut the mat 1cm wider and 1cm longer than the photo. Use acid-free adhesive



(corners, tabs, tape) to adhere the photo to the mat. Then adhere the matted photo to another piece of cardstock (usually 30cm x 30cm) using the same method. Add a title and a journaling block to describe the 'who, what, when, where, why and how' of the picture and your first scrapbook page could be finished. Refer Image 1, the photo that triggered my scrapbooking adventure, where I added a strip of braid to the photo mat with acid-free glue before enclosing the page in an acid- and PVC-free plastic sleeve to begin my first family heritage album.



Image 3



Image 4

Kay Martin has kindly supplied Images 2, 3, 4 and 8. Her photo of the Piening Family in Image 2 is enhanced by being adhered to a die-cut round, decorative scrapbook paper before placing it on the background cardstock. This gives a dramatic presentation, yet is simple and uncluttered. All individuals are named. Kay's Images 3 and 4 use smaller photos to tell a person's story. Image 3 summarises the life events for Jane Cavit and includes her burial site in Broken Hill, NSW. Image 4 of William Mates and second wife Mabel Cox illustrates his long association with the SA Railways. In Image 8, Kay has celebrated one aspect of her father's life by creating a tribute to his war service during World War II, a time when he was dearly missed by family.

What a family heritage scrapbook album could show are photos, documents and possibly memorabilia of members of an immediate family. Images 5 and 6 (following page) introduce the Dennis Family Group on one style of commercially-available family tree scrapbook pages. Photos have been re-sized to fit and include parents, their eight children, one home where they lived and a much-loved image of the younger children with their mother. Details about each person have been written and small pearls were added to the borders to lift the plastic

sleeve off the face of the photos when enclosed in the album. These pages are followed in the album by individual pages about each parent and each sibling and include copies of significant certificates (birth, death, marriage) where possible.



Image 5



Image 6

Image 7 (below) shows the photo was poorly developed ( in 1925) and a noticeable haze of mercury used in the developing process remains across the photo. Photos like this one present problems – they really aren't safe to keep in a box with other pictures, nor are they safe to handle, yet they are too precious to destroy. So I scanned this photo for perpetuity before I created a scrapbook page for the *original* . The photo is adhered with raised corners and small rhinestones have been added to the photo mat to raise the plastic sleeve off the face of the photo when inserted in the album. My album, my choice.



Image 7



Image 8

Quality requires good control. Like good wine, photographs need optimum temperature, humidity and (lack of) light for long-term preservation. The paper on which photographs are printed, as well as on which they are mounted, must be acid- and lignin<sup>1</sup>-free or the photos will turn yellow with time. All chemicals used in photo processing must be washed away with water before fixing, as the residue of some chemicals (eg mercury) remains 'active' and may be detrimental to health (refer Image 7).

'Ideally photographs should be stored in special albums that will not cause them to deteriorate.'<sup>2</sup> In the 1970s, self-stick albums were cheap and popular. Photos were attached to a sticky backing and covered with a clear plastic overlay. These albums paralleled the emerging technology for automatic photo processing. Together, these two things effectively destroyed a generation of casual photographs! Users became aware of some of the dangers of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) in plastic as it breaks down to acid and does damage over time – a lesson learned too late.

Other culprits that can damage photographs include some insects in both larval and adult forms, such as book lice, silverfish, moths, cockroaches, earwigs, and also moulds (look for spores). Personally, I have found that a small mesh bag of naphthalene flakes is useful in controlling natural problems such as these, but the use of some chemicals is arguable.<sup>3</sup>

As well as paper, adhesives must also be 'safe', ie acid-free. Adhesives need to 'stick' for a lifetime and some of the early (1990s) materials produced as 'archivally-safe' only held materials together for a short time. What use is that? The quality of these products is better now – be prepared to pay a little more.

We know that newspaper is acidic – it yellows over time. Births and deaths notices need to be photocopied or scanned. 'Reflex' paper seems to be acid-free but be cautious of using coloured or recycled papers for long-term preservation. Some inks can leave unsightly residues, even those from some felt-tipped pens.

Purchase polypropylene sleeves to enclose your scrapbook pages – they will be marked 'archivally-safe'. If preservation for future generations is important to you, or if your material has broader historical significance, then archival quality is a must.

#### End Notes

- 1) *Lignin* is an important component of the cell walls of vascular plants which helps to make the cells rigid, especially in wood and bark.

- 2) Jaunay, Graham, "Identifying and Dating Old Family Photographs" (2014) p.3.
- 3) Hicks, Shauna, "Your Family History Archives – A Brief Introduction" (2010) p.16.

#### References / Useful Resources

Darddashti, Schelly Talalay, *MyHeritage* Blog Editor and Genealogy Advisor, 'Looking at Our History: Images 101'. Family History, Hints and Tips. Published 7 January 2018 on *MyHeritage* site.

Hicks, Shauna, 'Your Family History Archives – A Brief Introduction' (2010) *Unlock the Past*. 40pp.

Shauna Hicks gives detailed recommendations regarding archival storage on pages 14-16 and a list of suppliers of archival materials is included in Appendix 1. Shauna recommends visiting professional conservators in the archival sections of libraries for more detailed information, if that is what is required.

Jaunay, Graham, 'Identifying and Dating Old Family Photographs' (2014) *Adelaide Proformat*. 75pp.

Graham Jaunay is a well-known genealogist who is widely published on a range of topics relating to family history, including until recently his monthly newsletter, *The Proformat*. This small book seems to be a compilation of several of his *Proformat* articles covering the History of Photography. The reader is challenged to see what the photo is saying through the styles of clothing, hair and furniture depicted, as well as in the subject and its pose. Excellent reference.

Levenick, D. 'How to Archive Family Photos' (2015) Family Tree Books. 240pp. Details digital images, the importance of scanning original photographs and the storage of digital images in more than one place.

Useful source of archival scrapbook materials:

Gould Genealogy and History  
1/1257 North East Road, Ridgehaven, South Australia 5097  
Phone: (08) 8263 2055; 1300 526 069  
Web: <https://www.gould.com.au>

**Sue Wilson**

With special thanks to Kay Martin

## LOOK WHAT YOU MISSED!!!! by Elizabeth Grocke



**April 2018** *Graham Redman, Be'er Sheva* —In October 2017, my wife Pauline and I went to Israel in the Middle East, with two objects in mind.

The first was to volunteer for a local organisation which supplied food and other essential items to Jewish people in need. But we lost the position we had been planning two months before, so we used the time allotted for touring.



The other reason was to attend the celebrations of the first World War efforts of the Australian and New Zealand mounted Infantry, dubbed the Australian Light Horse. This celebration encapsulated the victory over the Turkish invasion and occupation of the land known by the name of Palestine, the promised home of the Jewish people, now known as the Nation of Israel. This victory which occurred at Be'er Sheva freed the land enabling the Jewish people to form the Nation in 1948.

The reason why there is always conflict in this area is that this strip of land is a trade highway between the East and Africa. The celebration on 31/10/17 was that it was 100 years since that Conflict and the victory. A secondary reason is the bond formed between Israel, Australia and New Zealand, where Israel is indebted to us for the Victory.

Pauline and I, with Australian friends attended several events on the day pertaining to the Celebration, and were certainly proud to be there mixing with the Jewish people.

### May 2018



*Lyndall Simmonds, Charts and Reunion* —Anastasia Mahar, Lyndall's Great Great Grandmother, had 13 children and was married in 1892 to James Wang Al Ling. Lyndall became fascinated with her GG Grandmother and her life so some 160 years on, set about to find out more about her and eventually published a family book around 2016.

A family reunion/gathering was held in Bendigo over the Anzac Weekend in 2016 and many came from far and near (some from the USA) to be part of the day.

Lyndall showed and talked about her Descendant Chart, how she set this chart up using Microsoft Excel, and when she had this printed it was almost 2m long. By using this form of chart Lyndall said she could show as much or as little information as she wished, others could easily read and understand. The chart Lyndall showed us followed only Anastasia and James's immediate family, but the page could have followed other brothers and sisters if wanted.

Other interesting ideas Lyndall spoke about: Mapping your families, travels by sea, where did they settle, where they are buried. This again is where *Trove* comes to the rescue; what an invaluable resource we have and it is all free.

#### **June 2018**



*Margaret Morgan, Yankalilla History and Early Families*—Way back in 1836 Col William Light sailed down to explore the area we now know as Yankalilla. Settlement was encouraged and one of the first settlers was Henry Kemmis, a relation of Ian Blatchford, one of our members.

The area was, mainly in the early years, known for sheep and wheat growing, but when this declined due to over-cropping many residents moved on to greener pastures in the Yorke Peninsula and Mid North.

Margaret spoke about how the History Society is trying to preserve local history, and the group has produced three hand books: *Old Normanville*, *Old Yankalilla*, and *Old Myponga*, the best \$15 I have spent.

These books give you a great insight into the area and its early beginnings. I know we (hubby & I) will be going down and exploring the area in more detail.

**PS:** At our last three meetings (or should I say all past meetings) our attendance has been around the 50/60 member mark. This is great and thank you for attending, it makes my day to see what has been planned being enjoyed.

**Elizabeth**

## HISTORY MONTH DOWN SOUTH by Lynette Gibson



Among the many activities offered by the Yankalilla-Myponga area I firstly attended the launch of a booklet on Old Myponga, compiled by Dr Margaret Morgan from the Yankalilla Historical Society. The next outing was a one day display of memorabilia from the area put together by the Myponga Historical Society. A huge amount of work involved in the exhibition showed all aspects of the area from really early days right up to the present day. Obviously some people there had shifted from the area but had returned for the day and were catching up with others they knew from either school, sports or the church. There was much looking at old photos and sharing experiences.

Just a few days after that, Klaus and I went on an all day bus trip, again organised by the Myponga Historical Society, which included the Fleurieu Milk Factory, the brain child of three local dairy farmers, old houses, sites where buildings no longer exist, the Myponga Reservoir, but also Myponga Beach where we all enjoyed a lovely lunch at the very interesting Brooklyn Farm. Owners live in the original farm house built in 1875 and have created a wonderful garden surrounding a magnificent old fig tree. Another house nearby now used as a B & B was especially built for the film *The Boys are Back*.

The response to this event was such that two buses had to be hired with just over eighty people attending. On each bus one of the group explained the sites as we journeyed along and as well as that we all received a twenty page printed copy of the features covered in the tour along with relevant photos.

The whole day was very well organised and it is a credit to the group of eleven who comprise the Myponga Historical Society, which is a sub committee of the Yankalilla Historical Society. The Myponga group hold their own meetings and were only formed two years ago this August, which makes their achievements even more outstanding.

**Lynette Gibson**

## JUST IMAGINE by Vanessa Lawrence

Imagine me leafing through the last copy of a series of *Family Tree Magazines* borrowed from our Library - remembering that there are 12 copies in all and due date for journal articles is the next day. I was sitting down in our lounge on the Friday night, idly leafing through that edition when, upon reading one article, some names looked familiar. Excitement rose within me, yes they were my family names and yes, there was my grandfather's marriage certificate to my grandmother, plus her birth certificate. Ray, my husband thought I was having a seizure; obviously I was making all sorts of unusual noises! Avidly now I read the article, in which the writer was lamenting the behaviour of my great grandfather. I won't go into that aspect; however it is sufficient to say that my great grandfather at the ripe old age of 60 years and being widowed (there were no children from that marriage) married my great grandmother, who was the ripe young age of 20 years, thereby releasing her from the life she was leading, that of a domestic servant. Now a domestic servant's life in 1894 was just a skivvy, up at dawn and bed at midnight, so it is no wonder she married him. The result of this marriage was a child exactly nine months later to the day, that child being my grandmother. However, life doesn't always pan out as it should, does it? The mother died of Pulmonary Tuberculosis 17 months later, leaving my great grandfather a widow yet again and with a toddler to look after, and at the same time run a rather busy ale house at his home in a not very nice area of Portsmouth.

So, you might ask, what became of my grandmother at that tender age. Well, I always knew that she was 'adopted' - by a family friend into his large family and treated as their own daughter. So I was basically aware of the above facts whilst reading the article, and knew that the person who 'adopted' my grandmother also changed her name and gave her their surname, keeping her surname as a middle name. The writer of the article then went on to mention: *I wonder if Winnie's family ever tried to trace her, as they certainly wouldn't have found her.* To which I thought 'if only you knew what time and effort I had put into looking for her', as my father (her son) was not at all co-operative when asked about his family. If he had known of the following I think he would have had kittens because ... Guess what? The family friend who adopted my grandmother was the 'natural son' of my great grandfather. Isn't that a nice way of putting it! So in effect my grandmother's half brother took her into his family at the request of his own father who we now know was also my grandmother's father. Rather bizarre, espe-



cially as there was an age difference of 35 years between them. Upon reflection, maybe my father did know, remembering his generation did not have such a tolerant perception of society as we have today, and certainly such things were not discussed, especially with the children (me).

To carry on with what eventuated from that Friday night. I managed to contact the writer of the article through *Family Tree Magazine*, and we have been in touch ever since. It turns out that her grandfather was the son of the 'family' that took my grandmother into their own. We both share the same notorious great grandfather. She has traced his career as a naval soldier and has evidence that he allotted money for the upkeep of his 'natural son' obviously born out of wedlock. Thanks to our correspondence I now have a second cousin, and have exchanged photos of the family and many family stories, and she fondly remembers her Auntie Winnie.

Being of a curious nature, and who isn't when researching their ancestral past, I wondered about my great grandmother's family. For instance, why couldn't *they* have looked after her little daughter, who would have been their granddaughter? I discovered that the mother had died in 1884 also of Pulmonary Tuberculosis at the age of 35 years; her husband signed the death certificate. This explained why in the 1891 census one of their children was in the workhouse, the youngest was being looked after by a neighbour and my great grandmother was in domestic service. My 'new cousin' then obtained the marriage certificate of those parents, which led me back another generation, by having the wife's maiden name. Then, as one does, well, let's go back a little further, and look for *her* birth. Nowhere was it to be found. The plot thickens - but what is this in the Birth Marriage Death Registry for that period of time, a child born at least 16 months before their marriage? Luckily though, she was registered giving the father's name, and yes it was the missing birth. Let's face it, at least he married her. So, armed with all that information I have now traced my grandmother's parentage at least back to the early 1800s.

One thing though, the notorious great grandfather gave his birthplace as Lanark, Scotland. But there is no trace of his family there, and it is suspected his family emigrated from Ireland. All information about my great grandfather has been obtained through Naval records from the time he enlisted in the Navy in 1836 until the time he was medically discharged because of wounds sustained in action.

So, there it is in a nutshell, one last magazine to read, a chance in a million to read about one's own family – which almost defies imagination!

Since the above *Family Tree Magazine* article was submitted in 2007, it may be of interest to know that I have produced a booklet devoted to my father's maternal - or female line. This family booklet took over a year to research and follows the lives of five families, and how they intertwined to become my current ancestral line. The journal shows female lineage from the early 1800s in the Naval Port of Portsea, Hampshire, England. Getting the sources correct and showing the connection in the journal was fascinating, and uncovering such poverty and disease yet the tenacity to survive. Such a legacy I can leave for my own family now. I completed this journal in November 2016. Below is an extract written on the inside cover honouring their lives.

*Knowing where you came from, before you were born is amazing. And empowering. This part of our family history shows the endless struggle that life is, tells you in no uncertain terms of all the efforts of those who came before us. Armed with this knowledge that we now have, surely gives us all a deeper understanding of the meaning of life and knowing our roots, maybe we begin to acknowledge our own existence and pass this on for generations to come. My heart goes out to their survival against all odds within our families. This is who we are!*

**Vanessa Lawrence**

## CORRECTION AND APOLOGY

The preceding article *Just Imagine* was referred to in an article entitled *Memories* in *Relative Thoughts*, Volume 22, No 2, April 2018. Authorship of the article was incorrectly attributed to Vanessa Catterall and not Vanessa Lawrence. Our apologies to Vanessa Lawrence for this error, and we thank her for re-sharing the article with our current membership.

We would also like to acknowledge that Vanessa Lawrence was Editor of *Relative Thoughts* during 2006, and that any articles submitted during that time were edited by her, and not Vanessa Catterall.

**Christine Keen**

**Editor**

## CELEBRATING VIOLET DAY

As symbols of remembrance, poppies were not a feature of the First World War South Australian landscape until after 1920. Seeking a symbol of memory in the weeks following the unprecedented deaths of Australian soldiers at the Dardanelles in April 1915, Alexandrina Seager, Organiser of the Cheer-Up Society selected the small, aromatic but humble violet for this purpose. Violets had a centuries old history as objects of remembering, mourning and death and seemed perfect as the symbol through which to rouse memories of lost loved ones.

The inaugural Violet Day was held on 2 July 1915. It was a day of remembering those soldiers who had fallen, as well as a fundraiser where live violets and memory ribbons were sold to raise money to build a soldier's club house for those that would return. On this day, everybody was asked to wear a violet, but in the years following 1916, buttons could be purchased from the Cheer-Up ladies who were out and about in the streets of South Australia selling them. Following the war, the day was purely a day of remembrance and reflection and continued annually with services held in the Adelaide Town Hall until 1970.

© Christeen Schoepf 2015



In recognition of Violet Day, FPFHG members were encouraged to wear purple or violet to the June meeting. Christeen Schoepf kindly lent us a display, and members were encouraged to write on a card, leaving a message in memory of relatives who served in World War I.

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS



All meetings are 1:15pm, Uniting Church Hall, 23 William Road, Christies Beach. If you have a suggestion for a suitable speaker, please contact Elizabeth Grocke with details.

- 21 July – John Walker, Baptist Church History
- 18 August – Ruth Hall, Magarey Medal and the Girls in the Family
- 15 September – Annie Basham, Bushranger of Tassie
- 20 October – Ann Tilsley, Young Men for the Cause 1914-1918
- 17 November – AGM and 'Our Memories'

Please contact Elizabeth with any suggestions for speakers.

## RESOURCE ROOM OPENING TIMES



The Resource Room is available to members for research. During the opening time before the Saturday meeting the resource room volunteers will not be available to give assistance with 'Family Research', but books, newsletters and magazines can be borrowed from 12 to 1.15 pm and during the afternoon tea break.

Other opening times for the Resource Room will be the 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons only from 1.00 – 3.30pm.

Members wishing to access *findmypast* during resource room openings, are now requested to contact Chris Grivell and book a specific computer time. Chris's contact details may be found at the front of the journal.

Opening dates for this quarter are: 4 July, 18 July, 21 July, 1 August, 15 August, 18 August, 5 September, 15 September, 19 September, 3 October, 17 October, 20 October.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome new member:

**Janet Apostolopoulos**

**Nola Clisby**

## EVENING COMPUTER GROUP



The evening computer class is held in the Uniting Church Hall Christies Beach. A gold coin donation is requested to help cover the cost of the hire of the hall.

The Group meet monthly on the second Monday night of the month at 7.30 pm.

The program consists of a presentation on a specific topic followed by a question and answer session. Bring a tagged laptop from home but if you cannot you will be seated with someone who has a similar operating system to you.

Contact David Boyce if you are interested.

## Southern Areas Computer Scene

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## PERSISTENCE PAYS OFF by Jill Morley

How I found a fostered child – leaving names out.

I had a birth certificate for this child and the mother was L V. Named as the informant was the grandmother of the child, who signed her name B Hayes. The father was listed as Unknown—the mother of the child was 16 and the birth was said to be in New Zealand—this baby was born in South Australia—Obviously the surname was wrong—as the baby was to be given away—the surname started with H. So I searched every single H in the South Australian births trying to find the mother of the baby—I should say her first name L V was unusual so I searched only for her christian name on Ancestry with a H\* in the surname [wildcard]. The mother of the child was born in NZ and was 16 years old so this I thought would be easier to follow—I sent for her birth certificate in NZ but there was none.

After 20 years of dead ends—and anxious to find this family for the lady who was the baby, I then compiled every single tree where the mother name 'B H' in SA and still got nowhere. I wrote to *Who do you think you are* and a lady from WA rang me. She told me to ask the SA government for any adoption records and I did this. I never got a reply from anyone in this department for eight years until I rang them – seems the place was run by University students.

Then *Ancestry.com* put on some Election polls and I did a search with the mother's first names only and got ONE HIT—L V—only one, a lady who was living with her mum and dad in NSW and her last name began with H. So I did her mother's and father's trees and found they had immigrated from NZ to NSW, then via Victoria to SA where the mother 'Barbara' had two sons—I think I had it. So I posted a letter on all the Australian Rootsweb lists asking if anyone was related to the family. There my letter sat in the archives of the AUS-SAGEN@Rootsweb email club, for seven years. Then one day I brought in my emails and saw one with the H Surname as the heading - it said "Hello Jill I see you are trying to find the H family, the lady L V you are looking for is my aunt and the Barbara is my grandmother". I told him how I had come to the conclusion—as Barbara had had one child in the same area in SA. Meanwhile her 16 year old daughter got pregnant and Barbara also became pregnant.

Unable to support all the babies they gave one away—I was able to get a photo of the mother who was now gone. She died around the year we started to search.

L V had no other children and was married once only when she was in her late 40s- I did get L V's birth certificate. The birth was in a village about 10 miles from where she said she was born. That is why I could not find it in the NZ records - they only give a certificate to you if you are exact.

The moral to this story is don't give up. Search everything you possibly can and keep all notes - use a book to write everything down, as you never know one day you will wish you had. The baby died about 18 years before I found her birth mother. This saddens me as she was obsessed to find her. No DNA test was done, just a long hard search and never giving up for the 27 years it took, with no computer for the first 15 years.

**Cheers, Jill**

**This article was submitted by member, Ros Dunstall, and reproduced with permission from Jill Morley.**

### **WW1 ANZACS of the fleurieu peninsula: Stories from Pioneer Families - Correction**

For members and others with copies of this book please make a correction to page 15 paragraph 1 lines 3 and 4. These lines currently read that Maxwell Alexander was the fifth child of Alexander and Elizabeth Christie.

The correct text should read "Her father was the fifth child of Alexander and Ann Dowie".

**Lynette Gibson**

## THE HAIRDO NANCY LOST BY A WHISKER by Pat Davis

### Editor's Note:

This article is from the *Express & Star* newspaper circa January 1930. Unfortunately the copy of the article provided to Pat had the left hand side cut off. As a result it was necessary for the article to be retyped—spelling, grammar, punctuation and paragraphing are as in the original article. Efforts to obtain a copy of the article from the archives of the newspaper, were unsuccessful.

# The hairdo Nancy lost by a whisker

William Howe stumbled across the strange tale of his brave auntie, her wheeler-dealer father and a challenge that won a gold watch. JOHN OGDEN reports

It was headline news in the *Express* and *Star*, the night William Howe's Auntie Nancy booked in for a hairdo in Wolverhampton.

Perched on a stool next to the 20-year-old Goodyear worker, as she waited for her bob and shingle, was a fully-grown lioness called Baby.

They didn't get too pally while Nancy waited for the hairdresser – and as often happens it was a long wait – but she did pat Baby's muscled flanks a few times as she enjoyed a drink and a cigarette.

In the end it became obvious that no-one's mane was going to be trimmed that night because the hairdresser had decided to cut and run – or rather run and not



Jack Howe: pounced



cut – so Nancy finished off her champagne, posed for a few photographs, and left the cage to the cheers of an assembled throng.

The daring deed of January 17, 1930, on the town's market patch, was rediscovered by amateur local historian Mr Howe as he was doing research in Wolverhampton library, and came across a photograph of the incident.

"My auntie only mentioned it to me once, and showed me the photograph from the Express & Star," he says. "It's always stuck in my mind, but I was surprised to just come across it in the library."

**A CHALLENGE**

Has been issued for a LADY TO ENTER  
THE LIONS DEN AT  
**BOSTOCK'S JUNGLE**  
MARKET PLACE WOLVERHAMPTON  
THE CHALLENGE has been ACCEPTED  
BY  
**MISS NANCY HOWE**  
(One of the Employees of Goodyear), who  
**WILL ENTER THE LIONS DEN**  
ON  
**FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 17 1930**  
AT  
**Bostock & Wombwell's**

Any Local Hairdresser who cares to give  
and Shingle Miss Howe while in the Lions  
Den will receive a Suitable Memento of  
this Novel Event

**WHO WILL BE THE HAIRDRESSER?**  
Lectures & Performances 3.30, 7 & 8.30  
Admission: Adults 1/-, Children 6d.

**The event is announced**



Nancy Howe and lion tamer with lioness Baby in the cage: she drank champagne

### Personality

Nancy, whose real name was Annie, was 'volunteered' for the exploit by her father Jack, which was apparently no surprise to those who knew the local bookmaker and general dealer, whose place of business was whatever town centre pub he happened to be sitting in at the time.

On this occasion he was in Jessup's Hotel, in North Street, when the promotions manager for the famed Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie walked in. It was the custom

for the show to get a local personality to enter the lion's cage on the show's last night, and as they were moving into the town the following week, after a few days in Bilston, he was looking for a volunteer – preferably a woman.

When Jack heard that the volunteer would get a free hairdo and a gold wrist watch for the bravery, he pounced.

"Nancy was just approaching her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, and Jack must have thought: 'What a nice birthday present, a gold watch and a good excuse for a booze-up,' so he quickly volunteered her for the event," says his grandson.

Nancy agreed after only a minimal protest, which was great news for the menagerie owner, because all of Nancy's friends and admirers from Goodyears tagged along, as did Jack's many pals from the market and all the pubs he used.

As the Express and Star reported: "A lion in the cage is twice the size of a lion seen from the other side of the bars, but Miss Howe coolly stepped forward and patted Baby's flanks.

"Baby forgot to be jealous of her trainer, and posed, still as a Wembley lion, for the Express & Star cameraman.

### **Flourishing**

"Champagne glasses were then passed through the bars to the girl and the trainer, and cheerfully flourishing her glass towards friends in the arena, Miss Howe drank the champagne.

"The crowd cheered, and awaited the next act – the shingle trim turn by a hairdresser in the cage. But whether the hairdresser had been "thrilled to death" or not remained unexplained, but it was announced that he had not turned up, so the pair left the cage, embraced on the outside of the 'danger zone', and the showman presented Miss Howe with the gold wristlet watch promised her.

"Miss Howe, when approached by an Express & Star reporter, calmly flicked a speck of tobacco ash from her coat and almost yawned. 'Afraid? Why no. Of course I was thrilled," the report went on.

Mr Howe has included in the story in a well-presented private file which he is compiling under the title Howe's Life.

"There were loads of animals where I lived in North Street by the Fox, and all round there," he remembers.

"They used to keep the pantomime ponies for Cinderella at the Hippodrome, in the yard at the Fox, and I remember seeing an elephant outside the theatre, in Cheapside, one day."

Auntie Nancy, who died some time in the 1980s, married Mr Joe Harvey and had four daughters, Eileen, Betty, Josie and Cassie.

"She lived in Finchfield in Shining White Oak Drive, as we called it," says Mr Howe.

He explains: "A lot of people from where we came from, around Tinshop Yard and North Street, went to live in Finchfield around White Oak Drive after they knocked the old houses down.

"It had a sign up for Shining White Oak Drive in a soap powder advert on TV, for Daz or something, and they had a shot of the road with all the lines full of shining white washing."

Born in Wolverhampton, Mr Howe left St Joseph's School, in Steelhouse Lane, and went to work in the wholesale vegetable market before joining the Grenadier Guards for three years.

#### **Landlord**

On leaving, he went into betting shop management, then became a pub landlord, at the Swan in Wombourne, the Dudley Arms in Himley, a pub at Upton Magna, near Shrewsbury, and finished up at the Clarendon.

He now works on a casual basis at John Neave Print in the city, where he can also arrange his memoir.

"I've always been interested in the old Wolverhampton, I don't know why", he says.

"I had lots of pictures of local scenes hung up in the pubs, but I had most of them stolen when I moved out of the Clarendon in 1991.

"My mum and dad used to tell me some great stories, but I forgot a lot of them, but over the last 10 years I've started to collect it again and write it all down."

**Note:** Nancy (real name Annie) is the niece of my grandfather on my mother's side.

#### **Pat Davis**

## THANK YOU

Thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy and overwhelming support after Arthur's passing in February.

**Nola Clisby**

## ENGLISH CENSUS DATES

The census was taken on the following dates:

10 Mar	1801	No longer exists, with a few exceptions
27 May	1811	No longer exists, with a few exceptions
28 May	1821	No longer exists, with a few exceptions
30 May	1831	No longer exists, with a few exceptions
6 June	1841	Now available to the public
30 March	1851	Now available to the public
7 April	1861	Now available to the public
2 April	1871	Now available to the public
3 April	1881	Now available to the public
5 April	1891	Now available to the public
31 March	1901	Now available to the public
2 April	1911	Now available to the public
19 June	1921	Expected to be released by TNA in January 2022
26 April	1931	Destroyed during WW2
29 September	1939	(WW2 National Registration) Now available to the public
8 April	1951	
23 April	1961	
25 April	1971	
5 April	1981	
21 April	1991	
29 April	2001	

Source: <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/Census>

Another source is: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_United\\_Kingdom\\_censuses](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_Kingdom_censuses)

## SA HISTORY MONTH TALK



Text under Medals reads:

William Charles Westbury's medal entitlements:

Queen's South Africa medal with campaign clasps for Orange Free State, Transvaal, South Africa 1901 and South Africa 1902; 1914-15 Star; British War Medal 1914-20 and Victory Medal 1914-19.



On Thursday, 24 May 2018, as part of SA History Month, Joy Nieass gave a talk at Seaford Library, explaining her family link to William Charles Westbury, SA's first acknowledged Aboriginal soldier to have served his country in both the Boer War and WW1.

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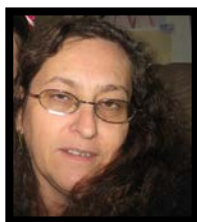


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### VOLUNTEER RESEARCH

Research can be undertaken for anyone seeking information on ancestors in our local area. Research Request Query Forms are downloadable from our website at [www.fleurieufamilyhistory.org](http://www.fleurieufamilyhistory.org) Please forward the forms to Volunteer Research, PO Box 1078, Christies Beach North, SA 5165.

### EDITOR'S NOTE by CHRISTINE KEEN



Wow! What an amazing range of stories this edition. From our guest speakers and their varied topics, to members honouring family members, attendance at events during History Month, as well as tips on how to preserve that valuable family history. I hope you all enjoy reading the stories as much as I have. Thank you to all those members who sent contributions.

I look forward to receiving your wonderful contributions, and feedback. Don't forget to include your photos. Articles can be about your own research, your tips on family research, a place you've visited – anything you feel may be of interest to other members.

**Christine Keen**

## When & Where

### MEETINGS

The monthly Meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month from January – October at 1:15pm, Uniting Church Hall, 23 William Road, Christies Beach. The Resource Room is open from 12:00 each meeting day.

Annual General Meeting is held on the 3rd Saturday in November commencing at 1:30pm. Committee elections are held at this time.

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**Aussie Interest Group** – meets at 1:00pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month. For information contact Ros Dunstall.

**United Kingdom Interest Group** – meets at 7.30pm on the 3rd Monday of each month. For information contact Sharon Green.

**Evening Computer Group** – meets at 7.30pm on the 2nd Monday of each month. For information contact Dave Boyce.

**DNA Evening Group** – meets at 7.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month. For information contact Sharon Green .

**DNA Day Group** – meets at 1.00pm on the 1st Monday of each month. For information contact Peter Tuck or Sharon Green.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

#### Membership with Electronic Journal:

Family (2 people) – \$30.00

Single – \$25.00

#### Membership with Printed Journal:

Family (2 people) – \$35.00

Single – \$30.00

A \$5.00 joining fee applies to all new and lapsed memberships.

Fees should be paid to the Treasurer prior to the November AGM each year.

**PUBLISHING** This journal is issued quarterly to members. Items for inclusion should be submitted to the Editor by 16 March, June, September and December. FPFHG shall not be held responsible for statements made or opinions expressed by the authors of submitted materials, nor shall FPFHG vouch for the accuracy of any genealogical data, offers, services or goods that appear herein. The Editor reserves the right to edit any articles proffered for publication.

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