



# Relative Thoughts

Volume 25 No. 1

January 2021

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



Memories from our 20th birthday celebration in 2016.



## CONTACT US

### Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.

Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.  
The Secretary  
PO Box 1078  
Christies Beach North  
South Australia 5165  
Email—[fleupegroupinc@yahoo.com.au](mailto:fleupegroupinc@yahoo.com.au)  
Website—<http://fleurieufamilyhistory.org>

**President**—Joy Nieass

**Speaker Coordinator** —Elizabeth Grocke

**Vice President**—Peter Tuck

**Committee Member** —Gay Jennings

**Secretary/Volunteers**— Mary Sedgmen

**Committee Member** —Jenny Chapman

**Treasurer**—Lynette Gibson

**Patron** —Graham Jaunay

**Journal Editor** —Christine Keen

**Non Committee**

**Resource Room Bookings**

Chris Grivell

**Webmaster**—Pam Hodges

**PPFHG Mailing List—members only**

Ros Dunstall

**Membership Coordinator** —Nola Clisby

# INDEX

Inside Front Cover—Contact details and Committee listings	2
President’s Report— Joy Nieass	4
Vale Bob Beaton—Anne Dow	5
Treasure Trove in Trove (Part 2) - Kerry Edwards	6—9
FPFHG Burra Trip 2021—Peter Tuck	9
Mizpah Jewellery—Sharon Green	10
Cornish Born South Australians Database Project—Jan Lokan	11
North Road Cemetery—‘The Leg’	12
Welcome to New Members; Membership Fee Reminder	13
North Road Cemetery—The End of An Era: From Walkerville to West End	14—15
Amery Road, Aldersey Road, McLaren Vale—Lynette Gibson	16—18
Larrikinism at Port Germein	18—19
Upcoming Speakers & Events; Resource Room opening times	20
Volunteer Research; Editor’s Note; When & Where	22—23

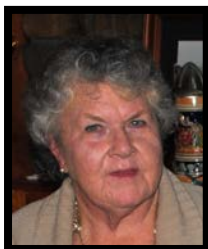


FPFHG Facebook  
Group



View of Witton Bluff on Facebook and websites

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi to All,

This report will be read by all after we enter into the New Year of 2021. This report would usually have been my Report from the Annual General Meeting. This as you know was cancelled at the last minute due to a Covid 19 outbreak.

How do we describe 2020 – the exceptional year, the unprecedented year or simply the year to remember. With the many challenges we were dealt I believe we have come to the end of the year in a positive position and have many plans for us to move forward in 2021.

Activities were restricted but fortunately we have wonderful conveners who kept things going – of course numbers were restricted and members who attended did all that was asked of them to observe the conditions under which these meetings occurred.

Our first general meeting in August was an exciting day. To our delight we had 50 members attend and we had a 'fun' meeting, we reconnected and enjoyed each other's company, biscuits in packets were all we could offer for afternoon tea. This was the first of our three meetings after the lock down, making a total of five meetings for 2020. We have been fortunate to meet, although it looks different, we are still able to participate in the meeting procedure.

Although we have had a year of many ups and downs/lockdowns and many other interruptions it does seem difficult to believe how quickly the year passed (or is this because I am getting old!!).

We are hoping to hold our AGM in January, when you read this you may have attended and met the new Committee for 2021, and we head into another exciting year of the Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group. There will be many stories to be shared and hopefully everyone enjoys good health and happiness in 2021.

Thank you to all members for the support you have given to our Group in this exceptional year.

**Joy Nieass**

**President**

## VALE BOB BEATON by Anne Dow

Robert (Bob) Beaton

8.12.1937—14.12.2020

Bob became a member of the PPFHG in 2001. He had a passion for Family History, researching and compiling an extensive family tree. He loved finding a family connection to other members whether it be a direct relationship or through someone who married into his extended family. He was very knowledgeable on people who lived in the local area prior to suburbia development. In early years Bob was a familiar face at the BP Service Station, O'Halloran Hill before retiring.

Bob played an active role in the PPFHG club over the years. He was a member of the Executive Committee, Resource Room Committee, web master, organised Bunnings BBQ, volunteered in the resource room where he helped many people with their research, promoted the club at displays at various venues, involved in running classes for 'How to research and compile a family tree', most members will remember him for selling raffle tickets at the monthly meetings. He also carried out various other jobs behind the scenes. Rest In Peace.

Condolences to Janice, Diana, Sue, Justin, Annette and Fiona.

Anne Dow

**Ancestral Mathematics**

In order to be born, you needed:

- 2 parents
- 4 grandparents
- 8 great-grandparents
- 16 second great-grandparents
- 32 third great-grandparents
- 64 fourth great-grandparents
- 128 fifth great-grandparents
- 256 sixth great-grandparents
- 512 seventh great-grandparents
- 1,024 eighth great-grandparents
- 2,048 ninth great-grandparents

For you to be born today from 12 previous generations, you needed a total of 4,094 ancestors over the last 400 years.

Think for a moment – How many struggles? How many battles? How many difficulties? How much sadness? How much happiness? How many love stories? How many expressions of hope for the future? – did your ancestors have to undergo for you to exist in this present moment..

Source: <https://www.google.com.au/search?q=ancestral+mathematics&tbm>

## TREASURE TROVE IN TROVE (Part 2) by Kerry Edwards

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the second instalment to Kerry's article. Part 1 was in the October 2020 edition.

My grandmother Jean Winifred MILLER was born 11 December 1906 in Watervale (near Clare) South Australia. In searching *Trove* for newspaper articles, I found several letters she wrote to a children's column, which tell the story of her life from seven to 15 years old.

*Daily Herald* (Adelaide, SA: 1910 - 1924), Monday 29 December 1919, page 1  
THE LETTER BOX

Jean Miller writes from Burton Cottage, Clare:—

Dear Remus—We went back to school last week for our exam after the school had been closed for a month on account of the flu. I received a book for being the only one in the class to gain every mark. I will be in the eighth grade when we go back after the Christmas holidays. We all received a Christmas card from our teacher. With love and best wishes to you all Merry Christmas and a bright and Happy New Year.

Thank you, Jean. I congratulate you in having done so well at school in spite of the school having been closed for so long.

*Daily Herald* (Adelaide, SA: 1910 - 1924), Monday 13 September 1920, page 3  
THE LETTER BOX

Jean Miller Writes from Burton Cottage, Clare:—

Dear Remus—We have had some lively sunny days during the past week, but rain started again today. The wattle is in full bloom now and it is a beautiful sight. We have gathered quite a large number of wild flowers already. I have had the operation for my throat and I feel much better for it. I have also returned to school after missing four months. We have had part of our second terminal exam. I will let you know the result as soon as possible. I hope to gain my qualifying certificate in November, but I will have to work hard on account of missing so much schooling. With love to Nancy, Jack, your daughter, and yourself.

I am glad to hear that your throat is better, Jean, and I sincerely hope that you will succeed in passing the examination. But you will have to work very hard indeed to make up for the four months you were absent from school. I hope that you will not find the task too hard, but I should be sorry if you became ill again.

*Northern Argus* (Clare, SA: 1869 - 1954), Friday 24 December 1920, page 5  
Clare Public School

Friday, the 17th inst, being the last day in the public school year, a number of parents and friends assembled on the invitation of the senior scholars to witness the distribution of certificates gained at the recent exam for the qualifying certificate and a number of prizes given by various donors. After afternoon recess the entire school was assembled, and short, happy speeches and expressions of good wishes were made by the Rev S J Bloyd and Captain Menzies, representing the school committee, and the Revs A E Jones, W Gardiner, and J McD Forsyth. The various grades then marched in the infant school for the enjoyment of a huge Christmas cake, composed of toothsome materials, provided by the pupils themselves. The middle grades indulged in a tea party and a concert. In the upper grades the following pupils

were handed their certificates by the chairman : —Austin Symons, Benry Eeiotke, Winnie Moyle, Lucy Ohlmeyer, Irene Taylor, Mary Hamlin, Jean Thompson, Jean Miller, Stella Ash, while Jack Edwards, Thomas Kelley, Sidney Lloyd and Lena Wyman, who did not gain their qualifying certificate, were congratulated by the speakers on gaining official recommendation to a high school. The first 6 and last 2 children named in the above list deserve special praise, being only grade VII scholarship to September last. They thus completed two years' work in 12 months, and that in the highest grades in the curriculum. Some months since Mr Menzies offered £1 to provide prizes for 'battlers.' These (four) were awarded to Alick Ness, Alvan Lee, Myrtle Bond, and Sidney Lloyd. Book prizes offered by Mrs Johncock to gainers of full marks in the reclassification exam in the top grades fell to Jean Thompson, Jean Miller, Stella Ash, Lucy Ohlmeyer, Winifred Moyle, Irene Taylor, Max Peterson, Norah Ohlmeyer, Austin Symons, Sarah Hart, Nancy Forsyth. Committee prizes for special industry fall to Clara Giles, Robt Morton, and Bert Jeffrey. Announcement was made that a High School would be opened in January. It is to be hoped that it will receive the hearty support it should have. In order that it may be maintained an average daily attendance of at least 20 must be assured, or the teacher will most probably be withdrawn and the High School closed. Special credit is due to Mr Menzies for his untiring efforts in furthering this matter. The head teacher offers a gold medal to be awarded to the most satisfactory student during the High School year 1921. May we not ask whether there are not other parents and citizens willing to follow the lead given by the donors of the prizes mentioned above, so that next year we may be able to publish a still more satisfactory report. We will shortly publish the head teacher's report on the progress of the school during the past year.

*Daily Herald* (Adelaide, SA: 1910 - 1924), Monday 3 January 1921, page 3  
THE LETTER BOX

Jean Miller writes from Burton Cottage, Clare:

Dear Remus - I am writing to thank you for the nice Christmas Card you sent me. On Friday the school committee and several people visited the school. Our qualifying certificates were presented to us. I received mine and also a nice book from my teacher for gaining every possible mark in grade 8 exam. A high school will be opened in Clare in January. I think I shall be going. The stories written by "Peggy" are very interesting. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Bright and Happy New Year.

I congratulate you on your success at school, Jean, and I am very proud to think that you won the prize for highest marks at the exam.

*Daily Herald* (Adelaide, SA: 1910 - 1924), Tuesday 10 May 1921, page 3  
For The Children

Jean Miller writes from "Burton Cottage," Clare: -

Dear Remus —I was sorry so see that you have not received many letters lately. I have been very busy doing homework every night, as I am now attending the Clare High School. We have had our 1st terminal exam and our teacher, Mr. Flaherty, was very pressed (sic) with the result. The Anzac Day celebrations were very nice in Clare. It was a lovely sunshiny day. I think the stories by "Peggy" are very interesting, also the stories by ourself. There has been a great number of diphtheria cases about Clare lately, but most of the patients have recovered. With every success to the Children's Page.

Thank you, Jean. It was very kind of you to write because we have had too few letters lately,

but I hope that my letter box will be well filled for the future. I am glad that the first terminal exam was so highly satisfactory, and I hope that the last for the year will be equally pleasing. I am sorry to hear that diphtheria has been so prevalent in Clare. There are a number of cases throughout the State.

*Daily Herald* (Adelaide, SA: 1910 - 1924), Monday 17 October 1921, page 3

THE LETTER BOX

Jean Miller writes from Burton Cottage, -Clare:—

Dear Remus—We have had some heavy rains lately, but we are now enjoying the bright spring days again. During the holidays we often went up in the hills to gather wildflowers. Our annual show will be held on the 19th of this month. Next Sunday will be our anniversary, and the following Wednesday will be our picnic. I think the stories written by "Peggy" are very interesting. I hope Nancy and Jack enjoyed their drive through Clare the other week. We have started a circulating library at the High school; each child brings his or her book and sends it round. I noticed that Stella Ash has written again. Stella goes to our school, so I know her very well. Every success to the Children's images from Jean.

Nancy and Jack did enjoy the drive through Clare, Jean. They had been much further north, and were delighted to reach Clare. Daddie has promised to take them to Clare again some day. I hope that you will enjoy the anniversary, and I am quite sure that you will have a good time at the picnic, if the weather is favourable. I think the circulating library is an excellent idea, provided that there is some one to see that the books are well looked after. I do dislike to see a book badly used. I was very pleased to hear from Stella again. Peggy is glad that you like her little stories.

*Daily Herald* (Adelaide, SA: 1910 - 1924), Saturday 31 December 1921, page 3

THE LETTER BOX

Jean Miller writes from Almond Cottage, Clare:—

Dear Remus—To-day we have experienced a very heavy thunder storm. The creeks were flooded everywhere. You will have noticed by the address we have left our old home. This place is nearer Clare and we like it very well. I have passed the exam, which was primary standard, and next year I hope to take the junior exam. I think the letters to the Page from England are very interesting. Next Monday we hope to have a very successful sports day in Clare. On December 11 last I was 15 years old. I received some very nice presents from my friends. Wishing the Page every success and your daughter, Jack, and Nancy, also yourself a bright and happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. From Jean.

Thank you Jean, and I wish you very many happy returns of your birthday. I am glad that you like your new home. It ought to be a very pretty spot, for "Almond Cottage" seems to suggest blossoming (and fruiting) almond trees and they are very beautiful. I am very pleased that you passed the exam, successfully.

Remus was a children's column as per story:

*Daily Herald* (Adelaide, SA: 1910 - 1924), Saturday 18 February 1922, page 3

CHILDREN'S PAGE THE DEATH OF 'REMUS' PAGE TO BE CONTINUED

From all around the State many letters have been received from children and adults referring to the great loss sustained by the death of "Remus" who was, through the Children's Column, well known and much loved. Enlarged prints of the photo of "Remus" have been sent off to a



large number of applicants. Copies are still available and will be posted free on application. It is intended to continue the Children's Page, and it is hoped the interest which "Remus" was able to maintain will continue also. Definite arrangements will no doubt be completed in time to permit the Children's Page to appear again in next Saturday's issue.

*Northern Argus* (Clare, SA: 1869 - 1954), Friday 17 June 1927, page 5  
Hockey Dance

The Clare Girls' Hockey Club held their annual dance in the Clare Town Hall on Wednesday evening last. There was a good attendance including girl hockey players from outside clubs, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The music was supplied by Messrs. Hedley Snashall and Les. Elliott. Miss Jean Miller carried out the secretarial duties and Mr. Alex. Knappstein made a most efficient M.C. As a result of the dance the hockey club will net a useful profit.

*The Register*, Adelaide, Thursday, July 19, 1928 (page 252)

#### MARRIAGES

EDWARDS MILLER. On the 12th July, by Rev. Perry, Jean W., eldest daughter to Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Miller, of Clare, to Ernest C., eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, of Richmond.

**Kerry Edwards**

## **FPFHG BURRA TRIP 2021**

March 22 - 26, 2021

Powered sites - \$30 per night

Paxton Square Cottages - 1 bedroom 2 persons \$224.80 per night

Guided town tour plus - many options

- two Burra Cemeteries
- Burra History Library
- Renovated Railway Station inc fossil display
- Wildotta Homestead
- many other tours to historic locations
  - ◇ Sir Hubert Wilkins Cottage, school, Hallett, Mount Bryan
  - ◇ Manoora, Mintaro, Farrell Flat, Hansen
  - ◇ Worlds End, Robertstown, Black Springs, Porters Lagoon

or many more historic locations

For more information contact: Peter Tuck

## MIZPAH JEWELLERY by Sharon Green

Last year one of our members asked me about Mizpah Jewellery so I thought some of you may also be interested.

Many of us have come across pieces of jewellery with the word Mizpah written across it. I once thought because of my husband's heritage they were all pieces from his family but I came across more and more pieces that didn't quite fit the same scenario. So I thought that I'd check it out.

The word 'Mizpah' is Hebrew for 'watchtower'. It is mentioned in the bible Genesis 31.49 'May the LORD keep watch between you and me when we are away from each other.'

Mizpah Jewellery was very popular in mid Victorian times mid to late 1800s, and then there was a resurgence in popularity in the early 1900s when young men were going off to war in WW1. By the end of WWI their popularity was diminishing, and did not regain the same popularity in WWII, though the odd piece was still given or maybe updated.



Mizpah jewellery pieces were typically given to a loved one when they were facing periods of long separation to symbolise a bond of love between two people, in effect a 'forget-me not'.

So this meant it was a popular gift between men and women especially in Victorian times when one had to be very respectful of what was given as gifts between men

and women. It was so very different than today's world, when in this era even giving a necklace was to suggest a much closer relationship than what was considered as respectably appropriate.

Enter into the fray Mizpah jewellery - respectability at its best when not only inscribed with the word Mizpah but quite often also the quote from the bible.

The majority of these pieces were made in silver, though there were some made in gold and even a few set with diamonds. Their popularity was world-wide, the piece to the right picturing a boomerang, was made by Willis Bros, Melbourne circa 1900.



### Sharon Green

Silver Mizpah pendant photo courtesy of an Allen Jewellers customer. Other photos courtesy of Carter's Price Guide to Antiques

## **CORNISH BORN SOUTH AUSTRALIANS DATABASE PROJECT by Jan Lokan**

Volunteers at the SA Genealogy Society (now known as Genealogy SA) are compiling a database of people who were **born in Cornwall before 1900 and came to South Australia** at some stage of their lives. We would like to hear about anyone you know of who fits this description, whether they are a forebear of yours or not.

There is a **specially-designed form** for submitting information to the project, that can be downloaded from [www.genealogysa.org.au](http://www.genealogysa.org.au) under the 'Resources' tab and the heading 'Handouts'. This website also contains some completed examples of the form and a detailed Guide which explains some of the information being asked for, plus instructions on how to submit the forms (one per family group) when you have completed them. Note that we want to know more than just who they were, when they came and where they came from, though that much is at least a start.

The project will be ongoing for several years, as we want it to be as comprehensive as possible. The Irish and German databases at the Society each contain many thousands of individuals, about 25,000 in the German one and over 30,000 in the Irish-born one. We expect the new Cornish one to be at least as large, if not larger than these.

Using the special form, you can submit data electronically or written by hand on a print-out of the form, which can then either then be scanned or sent by snail mail (see the Guide).

**YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.**

**PLEASE SEND THEM TO US!**

Many thanks, Jan Lokan, Project Leader (email [saghs.cornishlead@saghs.org.au](mailto:saghs.cornishlead@saghs.org.au))

## NORTH ROAD CEMETERY—'THE LEG'

Located on Plots 2026-2027 in Path 5 North are two intriguing headstones that bear the name EYRE and a carving of an armoured leg. One headstone is that of Frederick James Eyre and his wife Mary King. The other is of his sister, Elizabeth Medcalf (nee Eyre).

Frederick James Eyre was an importer of Chemist's goods, operating as 'Agencies and Indent Co.' from the British Medical Association's Building in Hindmarsh Square. Initially very successful, Eyre expanded his business in 1924, taking on extra staff. This was the beginning of his downfall, however, and his business was declared bankrupt in 1926. Frederick died suddenly later that year on September 29 at the age of 64 years.



After some research, the origins of 'The Leg' were uncovered.



The armoured leg is the coat of arms of a branch of the Eyre family, and several legends as to its origin exist. It is documented that the surname Eyre evolved from the names L'Eyr or le Heyr.

The romantic legend of the Coat of Arms is based on the Battle of Hastings in 1066. It is said that a man by the name of Truelove came to the assistance of William the Conqueror when he had been thrown from his horse. His helmet had been crushed across his face, impairing his breathing. Truelove removed the helmet, restoring William's breathing. William then decreed that Truelove would from then on be known as L'Eyr, for he had given him air to breathe. At the conclusion of the battle William enquired after L'Eyr, and learned that he had lost his leg in the battle, which led to the coat of arms bearing "human leg in armour, couped at the thigh, quarterly argent and sable spurred..."



Another legend is that Humphrey le Heyr of Broham lost his leg while rescuing Richard the Lionheart at the siege of Ascalon. The coat of arms of the couped leg was granted to him in remembrance of the occasion.

Whichever legend is true, or whatever the origins may be, this coat of arms is certainly a unique one.

Article submitted by member Ros Dunstall, and reproduced with permission from the Media Officer, North Road Cemetery.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome new member:

**Anthea Taylor**

**Nola Clisby**

## MEMBERSHIP FEE REMINDER

Due to the extenuating circumstances of 2020, the Executive Committee have made the decisions to reduce membership fees for renewing members.

**The reduced fees apply ONLY to renewals for the year 2021.**

Revised Fees:

\$10 Single Membership

\$15 Family Membership

\$5 Printed Journal

For those members that have already paid their memberships for 2021, thank you.

**If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible.**

**Reminder:** There is a \$5.00 rejoining fee payable for any membership not paid by 28 February.

## NORTH ROAD CEMETERY—'THE END OF AN ERA: FROM WALKERVILLE TO WEST END'

It is not commonly known that in the early days of the colony, brewing beer was encouraged in an effort to reduce the large consumption of spirits which was regarded as 'detrimental to the well-being of colonists'.

By 1868 there were five main breweries in Adelaide, the West End Brewery in Hindley Street, the Kent Town Brewery, the Union Brewery in Rundle Street, the Adelaide Brewery in Pirie Street, and the Walkerville Brewery, as well as many smaller ones.

The Walkerville Brewery began its operation in 1844 on the SW corner of Fuller Street and Walkerville Terrace. Its ownership changed hands several times, and by 1889 it was sold to four hoteliers, Vincent Henry Simpson of the Buckingham Arms (buried Path 5 North), Samuel Harris of the Brompton Hotel (buried Path 7 North), John Selby Cocker of the Kentish Arms Hotel (buried Path 14 North), and R. Hyman of the General Havelock Hotel. It became known as the Walkerville Co-operative Brewing Co. Ltd.

Under their ownership the business thrived, and in 1898, the company bought out the Torrensville Brewery and moved its operation to Winwood Street, Southwark (now known as Thebarton), where the West End Brewery now stands, renaming it the Walkerville Brewery.

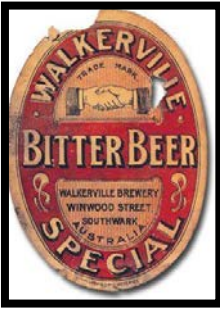
By 1915, the Walkerville Brewery was producing 53% of the state's beer, its closest competitor being the West End brewery which produced 32%.

In 1938, the S.A. Brewing Company took over the Walkerville Co-operative Brewing Co.'s Thebarton operations, which then became the major brewer supplying all hotels in South Australia. The West End brewery in Hindley Street was closed between the wars after which its operations were consolidated into the Thebarton site, which came to be known as the West End Brewery.



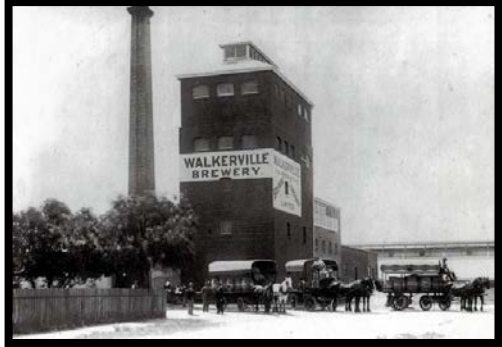
The S.A. Brewing Company was to eventually be taken over in 1993 by the Japanese-owned company Lion, who will sadly close the operations of the brewery next year.

Simpson Family Headstone



Original Label from Walkerville Brewery at Southwark (now Thebarton)

The Walkerville Brewery at Thebarton in the 1900's (West End Brewery)  
*S2d7 tNSoonuvedmbsteogtrhi  
adesituo 1r4fe:Oidldu6*



Horse drawn wagons participating in Labour Day procession, Adelaide, South Australia. The far one belongs to the Walkerville Co-operative Brewing Company. The banner reads:  
"Australian brewing employees wages amount to nearly £165,000 per annum. Number of men employed in Australian breweries 60,000  
*SLSA PRG 733/129.jpg*

A horse drawn dray owned by the Walkerville Co-operative Brewing Company Ltd decorated for an Eight Hour Day parade in Adelaide c1923

*SLSA PRG 280-1-42-20-7.jpg*



Article submitted by member Ros Dunstall, and reproduced with permission from the Media Officer, North Road Cemetery.

## **AMERY ROAD, ALDERSLEY ROAD, McLAREN VALE**

**by Lynette Gibson**

In June 1849 the ship *Dorothy* arrived in Pt Adelaide and among the passengers were Richard Baker Aldersey, his second wife Elizabeth Emma nee Wilkinson, three sons and four daughters.

He bought land in the village of Bellevue (Bellevue and Gloucester were two villages that are now known as McLaren Vale) and built a small cottage by the creek and planted a garden and a date palm. The building and date palm remain today and are part of the Shingleback Winery.



In 1851 he purchased 330 acres approximately four miles north of what is now McLaren Vale adjoining Hope Farm and built a substantial home from ironstone found on the property, naming it Amery after his birthplace near Alton in Hampshire. This house was on Section 514 and is now part of the Kay Brothers Winery Complex.

He died on 22 September 1857 and is buried in his private cemetery on private property off Amery Road. Other graves include his son Joseph Haydon Aldersey by his first wife Rachel, his son Algernon

Lumley Aldersey by his second wife, and also his second wife Elizabeth.



Richard's sister Mary Ann was born in London in June 1797. The family were wealthy and lived at one time on their property Amery as mentioned before. When her mother died in 1822, Mary Ann took over the housekeeping duties for her father. Both met a Dr Robert Morrison on leave from Canton China. He was the first Christian missionary in that country



and during the year he spent in England Mary Ann became a dedicated follower and joined in a tutoring group that he took in the Chinese language. Mary Ann raised funds to send female missionaries to the East and contributed generously herself.



Miss Mary Ann ('China Lady') Aldersey

At an age when women would not consider going to China, Mary Ann asked her father's permission to go but he refused. Apart from this Mary Ann always had delicate health. After five years her father could see her unflagging commitment and he reversed his decision and she eagerly planned her trip including booking her berth. All ready to go in 1832 when her brother's wife died in childbirth and Mary Ann wrote in her diary "with deep regret and bitter disappointment I gave up my longed for work abroad". She and her father then shifted to live with her brother and seven children and for five years she looked after the children and ran the household but continued to learn Chinese.

She finally set sail in 1837 at the age of forty, and so as not to be a burden and an embarrassment on the Society Register of Missionaries because of her physical frailty, she remained an 'honorary missionary' paying all her expenses. Canton, (Guangzhou) China closed its port to the world so she was advised to go to the East Indies - Surabaya where she set up a small class for girls with no equipment or books. She was ridiculed and threatened but finally accepted as she visited the sick and gave basic first aid.

She eventually reached Macau in South Eastern China and had the help of three teenage girls - one twelve year old left in her care and two Christian Javanese girls. In Ningpo there was much opposition to the establishment of a boarding school for girls at a time in China where foot binding, arranged marriages and in general it was considered girls were not worthy of attention. She was watched with suspicion, resentment and hostility and called the 'Witch of Ningpo'. She also set up small village schools; her favourite one being in San Ch'iao with its little bridges - meaning 'Third Bridge'.

After 16 years she realised that her increasing frailty meant she had to leave the work she loved and she handed over the school to an American Mission in 1857.

With her father no longer alive she joined her family in McLaren Vale and after living at Amery for three years she bought six acres of land and built a house on what is now Aldersey Road, naming it Tsong Gyaou after a former preaching station. She became very involved with the local Congregational church that was being established and when they wanted to build a manse for the minister she donated one acre of her property for this.

She built a two storey home on her land with manicured gardens, much like the family property back in England. She established a boarding school for girls who came mainly from Adelaide and also included some day students. Her two nieces, Mary Ann and Eliza who were running a school at Noarlunga closed it and came to work with Mary.

When she died on 30 September 1868 she was buried at the Congregational Cemetery rather than in the family cemetery as her brother had stipulated that except for his wife, only male members of the Aldersey family could be buried in the family cemetery.



Head stone for Mary Ann and her niece.

The two nieces inherited the house and continued with the school. In 1899 the house and school were destroyed by fire but opened again in 1900 after being rebuilt exactly the same. The school finally closed in 1903. In the 1940s it became part of the local hospital and still stands today.

**Lynette Gibson**

**Sources:**

State Library of South Australia

THE THIRD BRIDGES Tsong Gyiaou by Ira Nesdale

## LARRIKINISM AT PORT GERMEIN

To the Editor.

Sir— The small seaside town of Port Germein furnishes an apt illustration of the absurdity of the bona-fide travellers clause in the Licensed Victuallers Act. This place is made the happy hunting ground for a number of people who come over from Port Pirie every Sunday afternoon. There are two and sometimes three steamers from Port Pirie every Sunday afternoon; these contain from 400 to 500 people. Some of them are respectable and merely come for the sake of the sea trip and change of air: but a certain class of roughs come also, and for four or five hours run riot, and are a source of considerable annoyance. Last Sunday, on the arrival of a steamer, a lot of these buffoons seized an empty truck standing on the end of the jetty; some jumped into it, and the rest set it going towards the shore and then jumped up. A few ladies were quietly walking up the jetty with their prams, and, seeing this truck coming,

they had to turn and run for their lives, as there is not room for a pram between a truck and the side railing. Now these people are all considered by the law as bona-fide travellers, and consequently the hotels may be engaged nearly the whole of the Sunday afternoon in accommodating them. There is a saloon on at least one of the steamers, and our hotel-keepers do a roaring trade; it is said that on one occasion when two steamers were here from Port Pirie the two houses took about £18. On a Sunday I have seen men, and even youths, staggering along the street. But this is not all. Some of them have got into their other-wise empty craniums an idea that Port Germein is a most suitable place for letting off some of that vile filth of which their nature is composed, and right well they fulfil their mission. Obscene and foul language that would make even the famous 'bullocky' blush is heard in the streets. They evidently think that the fact that they hail from Port Pirie carries with it the 'freedom of Port Germein,' and that they can do just as they like; but many of the more respectable class do not relish their degrading exhibitions, and, as one of them, I enter my indignant protest against these incursions into our town. Some of the 'Hooligans' who come over are of the roughest type. There is one police trooper, and for all ordinary work this is quite enough. He is, in my judgement, a conscientious man, trying to do his duty, but it is impossible for him to cope with this element alone. At least three officers, in uniform, ought to be sent every Sunday. Last Sunday night one man was imprisoned for drunkenness. Our revenue benefited to the noble amount of 10s. by this. Next week another is to be brought before the Court for using indecent language. On the night of his arrest the roughs threatened to mob the constable. One man is powerless among so many. When this undesirable element is out of Port Pirie surely they could spare two or three of their police to help to keep order here. I think we have a right to it. I fail to see why the hotels should be open at all on Sundays here. These people are not really bona fide travellers, but excursionists. And why would a saloon be on the steamer? While the 'travellers' are going into the hotels may not local residents be tempted to try to avail themselves of an opportunity for 'refreshments?' The moral effect altogether upon the town is disastrous. The Sabbath is worse than any other day. Our boys are acquiring habits that bode ill for the future, and the moral life is very low. While the law is as it is, of course, we are powerless to interfere; but it ought to be stopped. 'Pitch and toss' is quite common on a Sunday afternoon. One lot will play while another watches the movements of the police. I have appealed to the Christian section of the town from the pulpit and platform. I now appeal to them and others through the public Press. As a Christian people we ought to rise against wholesale debauchery, and demand that it be stopped. I feel very strongly on this matter, and would like to say more, but space forbids it. Many others here are of the same opinion, and we sincerely hope that the unrighteous and unnecessary evil will be stopped. I am, Sir, &c., JL H. LEE. B.C. Manse, Port Germein, February 11

*South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900), Friday 23 February 1900, page 3*

Article submitted by Ros Dunstall.

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS



All meetings are held at 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.

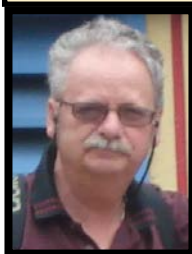
16 January—AGM, Resource Room Review

20 February—Jim Everett, Searching Cemetery Records

20 March—Dr Samantha Battams, Secret Art of Poisoning

17 April—Jan Lokan, Early Cornwall

## RESOURCE ROOM OPENING TIMES



The Resource Room is available to members for research. During the opening time before the Saturday general meetings, Resource Room volunteers will not be available to give assistance with 'Family Research', but books, newsletters and magazines can be borrowed from 12.00pm to 1.15pm, and during the afternoon tea break.

Other opening times for the Resource Room will be the 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons during February to October, and the 1st Wednesday in November, from 1.00pm—3.30pm.

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

Opening dates for this quarter are: 3 February, 17 February, 20 February; 3 March, 17 March, 20 March, 7 April, 17 April, 21 April.

## EVENING COMPUTER GROUP



The evening computer class is held in the Uniting Church Hall, 23 William Street, 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 7.30pm.

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 Heather Boyce if you are interested.

## Southern Areas Computer Scene

35 Taunton Parade, Christies Beach SA 5165  
Phone (08) 8382 2285

New & Second hand computers & laptops  
Printers, Ink & Selected printing requisites  
Parts and accessories  
Repairs are a specialty  
On-site internet access  
Internet service package agents



*For all your computing needs*

There s a fine  
line between a  
packrat and a  
serious family  
historian.

<https://blog.genealogybank.com/genealogy-humor-101-funny-quotes-sayings-for-genealogists.html>

## **allBIZ Supplies Pty Ltd**

125 O'Sullivan Beach Road

Lonsdale SA 5160

Phone: (08) 8326 2899

Fax: (08) 8382 5532

Email: [print@allbizsupplies.biz](mailto:print@allbizsupplies.biz)

Website: [www.allbizsupplies.biz](http://www.allbizsupplies.biz)

For all your printing and publishing needs



*We are pleased to acknowledge allBIZ Supplies as the printers of our Journal and can thoroughly recommend their excellent service.*

### **VOLUNTEER RESEARCH**

Research can be undertaken for anyone seeking information on ancestors in our local area. Please forward requests to Volunteer Research, PO Box 1078, Christies Beach North SA 5165.

### **EDITOR'S NOTE by Christine Keen**



Well this is a slightly different start to our first journal for the year. Thank you to those that answered the call for articles at short notice, so that a journal could be produced for January.

I have a feeling that our April edition is going to be a bumper edition, so please start forwarding your articles and stories.

Hoping for a better 2021 and looking forward to seeing you all back at meetings.

**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 Street, Christies Beach. The Resource Room is open from 12.00pm 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**—usually meets at 7.30pm on the 3rd Monday of each month but may vary. For information contact Sharon Green.

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

**DNA Evening Group**—usually meets at 7.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month but may vary. 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 March, June, September and December. FPFHG shall not be held responsible for statements made or opinions expressed by the authors of submitted materials, or 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.

All graphics are public domain unless otherwise stated. Logo copyright © Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc 2011.

POSTAL DETAILS

POSTAL DETAILS

Return to **Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.**, PO Box 1078, Christies Beach North, SA, 5165 if unclaimed.

Published Quarterly by Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc. Printing by allBIZ Printing, Lonsdale, SA