



Relative Thoughts

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Quarterly Journal of the Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.



2022 Executive Committee

Above back row—Lynette Gibson, Sharon Green, Gay Jennings, Joy Nieass, Elizabeth Grocke

Above front row—Ros Dunstall, Kerry Edwards, Peter Tuck, Jenny Chapman

Left—Nola Clisby



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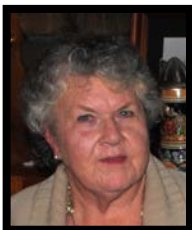


FPFHG Facebook
Group



View of Witton Bluff on Facebook and websites

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Welcome to 2022, this is our 26th year of the Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group. We have had a later start than usual with the dreaded COVID revisiting during January. Thank you all for your patience.

We are living in quite stressful and unusual times – floods on the East Coast and fires on the West Coast. The images we have watched for many days on our television, reports of water depths, number of people who are living in temporary accommodation and the huge numbers of homes lost, stock losses and no doubt loss of wild life are distressing. The saddest number is the number of lives lost. The West Coast is still fighting bush fires, also with losses of homes, stock and property.

Dorothea MacKellar certainly summed it up with the second verse of her poem.

– My Country

I love a sun burnt country,
A land of sweeping plains,
Of ragged mountain ranges,
Of drought and flooding rains.
I love her far horizons,
I love her jewel-sea,
Her beauty and her terror –
The wide brown land for me!

While these disasters have been happening COVID still hasn't gone away and unfortunately there are many in hospital, some have sadly passed away and many young and old are in quarantine – if you have been confined to the house with COVID restrictions maybe you have reviewed your family research, read a good book or caught up on your television viewing.

We have missed some of our members for various reasons including ill health – if this has been you, I do hope you are feeling better and we look forward to seeing you soon. Some people have been travelling – with the relaxing of some of the COVID rules this is now possible. Or maybe there has been a change of residence, a family event – if these are some of the reasons, we wish you well and hope to see you soon.

The new Committee for the year of 2022 has been busy – a New Members Meeting was held before our March General Meeting, we welcomed some new members and shared our history and resources available. The management of the Resource Room continues to keep the Resource Room committee busy, the Website and Facebook certainly have been keeping Kerry busy, the recording of membership renewals have seen Nola with lots to do, our new Secretary Ros has also been kept busy. A huge thank you to Christine Keen who produces our *Relative Thoughts* Journal. Please help her with interesting items for inclusion in future editions. A huge thank you to Lynette Gibson who, when Jenny Chapman was unable to continue in the role during her illness and treatment, stepped up and supported Jenny by renewing her position – Jenny is now able to continue. Thank you Lynette. The support from the

committee continues to keep us moving forward. You - the members also make the Group successful, your assistance before and after the meetings, setting up and cleansing tasks always cheerfully done.

We continue to offer research workshops, this is evident by the numbers who attended our February meeting and our first workshop with Marie Noble who took us through the accessing and researching of Land Titles (SAILIS) which can prove to be a 'treasure trove' containing information of our ancestors, whether they had a mortgage, their occupation and their places of residence. A huge thank you to Marie and also Sharon who organised the event. If you were unable to attend, watch for another workshop in the future.

Our first General Meeting in February was well attended and our inspiring speaker was Lainie Anderson from *The Sunday Mail* who has researched and written the story of the Smith Brothers flight from London to Australia in 1919. A great wonderful presentation and her book *The Long Flight Home* is a great read. Thank you to Elizabeth Grocke for her research and securing of speakers for our meetings – this can be frustrating for her.

At the March meeting I presented the story of Katherine Gollan Gordon who was born in Scotland but grew up in the Strathalbyn district. She married the local doctor and raised her family of four in Strathalbyn. After her husband William Blue passed away she married the Chief Justice and Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Samuel Way – they became Sir Samuel and Lady Way the year after their marriage. Another interesting story from the Fleurieu Peninsula area.

Elizabeth has more interesting speakers for us in the coming months – watch the website for updates.

As mentioned before the Resource Room is always evolving, not only with research assistance for all, but the scanning of the Group history has begun. This has become a priority for us following the fire which destroyed St Francis of Assisi Church on Dyson Road, which highlighted the urgency for us to digitally store our records.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our activities in the coming month – check the website and your magazine for times and places.

Stay safe.

Joy Nieass, President.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome new members:

Don Addison and Judy Addison

Nola Clisby

LOOK WHAT YOU MISSED!!! By Elizabeth Grocke



February 2022 *Lainie Anderson, The Great Air Race of 1919*—Lainie Anderson has been a columnist with Adelaide's *Sunday Mail* for nearly 15 years. Her 30-year career in journalism and public relations includes stints at the *Herald Sun* in Melbourne, *The Times* in London and the South Australian Tourism Commission. In 2017 she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to gauge the significance of Adelaide's historic Vickers Vimy aircraft and retrace the route of the 1919 Great Air Race from England to Australia. She has since written a novel on the race, *Long Flight Home*, and co-produced *The Greatest Air Race* documentary which aired on SBS TV.

Lainie's interest in the story began in 2009 when she was asked by a *Sunday Mail* reader to write a column on the Vickers Vimy aircraft at Adelaide Airport. When the new terminal building opened, the aircraft remained in its original 1950s hangar – which is now hidden in the long-term car park. When Lainie began researching the story, she couldn't believe she hadn't learned about the historic Vickers Vimy and its pilot Sir Ross Smith in school.



The 1919 Great Air Race was the brainchild of Australian Prime Minister Billy Hughes, who came up with the idea while flying between England and France for the peace talks at the end of World War I. Although widely criticised at the time, Billy Hughes realised the potential of aviation to bring his young nation closer to the mother country and inspire Australians after the war. He offered a £10,000 prize for the first Australian airmen to fly from England to Australia in a British-built plane in under 30 days. The world's media and even members of his own political party were up in arms at the idea, because planes were still made of wood, wire and fabric, and there were basically no airfields after India!

Despite this, six Australian crews took up the challenge: four were led by South Australian men who'd proven their skill and daring during WWI. Two crews perished and two others crashed out. Only one aircraft reached the destination in the required 30 days – the Vickers Vimy, flown by South Australia's Ross and Keith Smith.

Ross Smith, who was the most decorated Australian airman at the end of WWI, together with his brother Keith and air mechanics Jim Bennett and Wally Shiers, convinced influential people in England, including Winston Churchill, to support them with a Vickers Vimy – a state-of-the-art aircraft that was just coming off the production lines when the armistice was announced in November 1918.



Kodak supplied every man on every aircraft with a camera and film, so some of the first aerial photography in some parts of the world was taken from the Vickers Vimy.

The Vimy left Hounslow on 12 November 1919 in weather that was deemed “totally unfit for flying”. They faced many trials and difficulties as they flew across Europe, down through the Middle East and on to India, modern-day Myanmar, Thailand, Singapore and on through South East Asia to Australia.

In Pisa, Jim Bennett ran beside the plane to keep it from getting bogged in mud, and jumped into the back cockpit when the wheels had left the ground. In Cairo, Wally Shiers fixed a cracked induction pipe with chewing gum. In Surabaya in modern-day Indonesia, the aircraft was bogged in a reclaimed rice paddy field but took off on a 300m runway made from bamboo matting.

The Vimy reached Darwin on 10 December 1919, 27 days and 20 hours after leaving England. The Smith brothers each received a knighthood and Ross Smith split the £10,000 equally between the four men.

During Lainie’s Churchill Fellowship, she interviewed leading aviation historians around the world who said the Smith brothers’ achievement ranks with the greatest epics of the air and was in its time as awe-inspiring as the moon landing 50 years later.

Due to the efforts of many in securing a combined \$6m in funding from the federal and state governments and Adelaide Airport Ltd, the Vickers Vimy will be relocated to a new purpose-built home in the new airport terminal by the end of 2022.



March 2022 Joy Nieass, Katharine Gollan Gordon—Lady Way— Introduction - my late husband Kingsley was a Freemason and his last role of Master was in Strathalbyn. In 2016 I had the privilege of assisting The Master of the year Bill Merrill during the 150 year celebrations by researching the history of the formation of the Lodge and the original members. During this exercise I discovered there are many amazing people who were Pioneers and had settled in Strathalbyn and surrounds.

After much research in old newspapers, books and internet I have become very fond and proud of Katharine Gollan Gordon who became Mrs Blue and then Lady Way.

Katharine Gollan GORDON (later documents containing her name show it as Katherine Gollan GORDON) also known as “Kitty” was the daughter (the 3rd child) of Alexander Gordon a railway plate layer and Jessie MATHESON from Inverness, Scotland. Alexander and Jessie married in 1850 in Kirkhill, Inverness, Scotland.

Their two sons and their daughter Katharine Gollan born 8 April 1854 were born in Glasgow. On 17 June 1854 Alexander, Jessie, John, Alexander and baby Katharine (a babe in arms aged 10 weeks) boarded the barque *El Dorado* for the voyage to Port Adelaide arriving on 4 October 1854.

The barque *El Dorado* carried 21 passengers. When compared with *The City of Adelaide* which arrived in Port Adelaide in 1874 with 300 souls onboard, the *El Dorado* was one of the smaller ships which arrived here. The difference in size is considerable—the *El Dorado*

measured 109.7' L x 23.2' B x 17.1' D - *The City of Adelaide* measured 176.8' L x 33.3' B x 18.8' D. The voyage to South Australia would have been quite an adventure.

After their arrival in South Australia three more children were born. Sadly Catherine's mother Jessie died 13 June 1866 at Lake Plains near Strathalbyn aged 42 years and is buried in the Strathalbyn General Cemetery. Katharine was 12 years of age. Alexander remarried on 6 August 1868 at his residence in Lake Plains to Ann Campbell. Two more sons were born at Angas Plains. Alexander died on 5 September 1895 at Belvidere and is also buried in the Strathalbyn General Cemetery. The BISA entry: *Occupation: Farmer, Residing: Strathalbyn, Burnt Gully, Religion: Church of Christ.*

There was another couple who were important in Katharine's life – they were her aunt and uncle Catherine MATHESON and Donald GOLLAN – Catherine was Jessie's sister who had arrived in Adelaide on 6 July 1839 on the ship *Lysander* from Liverpool. In Donald's Will he described Katharine as his 'adopted daughter'. There are no records of when Katharine came into their family.

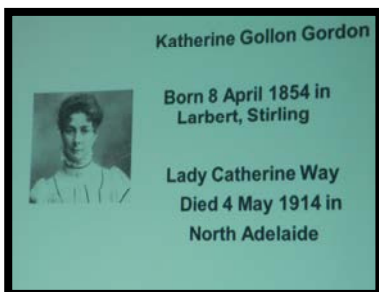
Donald was also a very early settler in the district and the owner of many properties, an hotelier, a cattle and sheep breeder (one report claims he named Tailern Bend!!) in conjunction with Mr Rogers, of Sandergrove, he built the first house in the town on the site where the Terminus Hotel now stands.

The BISA entry: *Occupation: Pastoralist, Hotelier, Sheep Breeder, Residence: Strathalbyn, Point Sturt, Kingston, Burnside (Land North of Strathalbyn).*

An obituary stated that 400 people attended his funeral in Strathalbyn when he died in 1888, he died on his property in Port Sturt following a fall from his cart. He was aged 73 years.

Quote from Wikitree - "Clearly his name would have been widely known and is a most likely source for the Indigenous Gollans of the Ngarrindjeri Nation headed by Old Gollan".

Catherine passed away 13 June 1896 aged 84 years, and is also buried in Strathalbyn Cemetery.



Catharine Gollan GORDON - As previously mentioned Catherine was born on 8 April 1854 at Larbert, Stirling and arrived in South Australia while an infant. Her childhood was spent in the Strathalbyn area – both families lived in many places which included: Burnside – (north of Strathalbyn) to Belvidere/Langehornes Creek, Point Sturt (on the Coorong and Alexandrina Lake Shore) – it would have been exciting for a child. I have found reference to her attending Miss Senner's School, on South Terrace, Strathalbyn.

At the tender age of 18 Katharine married Dr William Archibald Sinclair Blue from Strathalbyn at the residence of Donald Gollan at Point Sturt.

Dr William Archibald Sinclair BLUE was born 10 January 1847 in Poplar, London to Dr Sinclair BLUE (Scottish born) and Mary Belworthy COX (Irish Born) – his father served on several voyages to Australia as surgeon-superintendent. On one such trip Mary and three children

sailed on the barque *China* arriving in Port Adelaide on 12 November 1852. The family settled into Strathalbyn, Sinclair died in 1866 in Strathalbyn, aged 49 years, Mary died in North Adelaide aged 61 years, both are buried in Strathalbyn. While studying overseas William's father passed away and on his return he took over the practice in Strathalbyn. When he married Catherine on 24 October 1872 he was aged 26 and she was 18.

After their marriage in 1872, Billy and Kitty lived in Strathalbyn until about 1887 - he was Mayor in 1875. William was also Master of the St. John's Lodge several times between 1872 and 1887, an amateur theatre organiser, a horse trainer and was responsible for the building of the Institute. I checked out the plaque on the Strathalbyn Town Hall – this shows the original building was built in 1874 during William Blue's time. The family moved from Strathalbyn and Willy practiced in Largs Bay on the seaside, for a short time. In the late 1880s they lived in Hahndorf where Billy died on 18 September 1896, aged 49 years. He is buried in Strathalbyn with his parents, an aunt and sister.

While researching the founding of the St. John's Lodge I had come across an advertisement for the laying of the foundation stone which took place on Friday May 22 1896. The laying of the stone was performed by Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Honour S. J. Way, Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Justice. I wonder if Billy was well enough to attend!!

Katharine and Williams' 1st Child – Sinclair BLUE was born in Strathalbyn on 31 May 1875, he died of pneumonia in Capetown on 5 October 1914 aged 39 years and is buried in Capetown, but not known where.

Their 2nd Child – Archibald Gollan BLUE was also born in Strathalbyn on 15 March 1877—he passed away at Eastwood, on 4 March 1947 aged 69 years and is buried in the West Terrace Cemetery in the AIF Section.

Their 3rd Child – William Belworthy BLUE was born on 7 August 1879 in Strathalbyn. He was wounded in action on 22 September 1915, he suffered head concussion at Destroyer Hill, developed meningitis and was admitted to the Alexandrina General Hospital and died 13 October 1915, aged 34 years. He is buried in the Chatby War Memorial Cemetery in Egypt.

Their 4th Child – Shylie Katherine BLUE was also born in Strathalbyn on 16 May 1882. Shylie was educated in Hahndorf at Mrs Blue's small school, also at Dryburgh House Ladies School in Palm (Place) Hackney.

When her mother married Samuel Way she moved to 'Montefiore' and lived there until her marriage on 18 September 1906 at Christ Church, North Adelaide, her husband was Herbert Lockett RYMILL. Shylie died 3 April 1959 at Thorngate and is buried in the North Road Cemetery with her husband Herbert who died 27 May 1951.

Shylie held many appointments with various Golf Clubs and Associations. Guiding – State Commissioner of Girl Guides of South Australia – at the same time as her son Henry Way Rymill was the Scouts Chief Commissioner. She was awarded an OBE in 1942.

After William (Billy) died in 1896, Katherine lived and taught music in a small school in Hahndorf.

The Southern Cross Paper (1 April 1998) announced a Coming Marriage note –

“The Chief Justice to be Married Shortly”.

Another article -

“The Right Hon S. J. Way, P.C. and Chief Justice of South Australia, one of the wealthiest bachelors in South Australia”.

Their marriage ceremony took place on Easter Monday 11 April 1898 at “Audley House” the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Beach, (Samuel’s sister), and was conducted by The Rev John Thorne, of the Bible Christian Church, an old friend and schoolfellow of Mr Way.

Their honeymoon was spent on Samuel’s farm “Sea View” in Noarlunga, currently known as the Seaview Winery. Also The Chapel Hill Winery is connected to the Way family through the Bible Christian Church.

Samuel was granted a baronetcy in 1899. When Katharine first married she would have been Mrs Samuel Way but after 1899 became Lady Way.

Samuel James WAY – was born at Portsmouth, England, on 11 April 1836– the son of James WAY and Jane WILLIS. His father James was a Bible Christian Preacher who came to South Australia to set up the religion in South Australia in 1850 with his wife Jane, and four younger children. There is another whole story to be told about Samuel James Way.

Samuel was already well known in the legal world, Freemasonry, his philanthropic work, sheep breeding. Catherine emerged herself in the life of a well known and respected gentleman.

He was among the founders of Women’s and Children’s Hospital in North Adelaide, he also supported many charities, churches and learning institutions.

Catherine supported these charities with fund raising and also the sponsorship of many associations.

The Ways were generous and sociable hosts - often entertaining at their impressive home ‘Montefiore’ in North Adelaide. Their guests included many overseas visitors who stayed with them. Samuel considered it his public duty to entertain guests from political, academic, dramatic and musical circles – and to enhance Adelaide’s reputation interstate and overseas as a cultural centre

No doubt Katharine assisted with these events often entertained needy children’s parties in the gardens of ‘Montefiore’. Shortly after her marriage to Samuel she hosted her first garden party as the wife of the Lieutenant Governor at the Government House, Adelaide, this was the first of several occasions when Sir Samuel was Lieutenant Governor. As the Grand Master of the Freemasons, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Lodge in South was another event where they acted as host and hostess. The laying of foundation stones around Adelaide and also in the country to perform these duties. These events are well recorded (I have many of these occasions via *Trove*), and these articles always contain a description of her beautiful clothes she was wearing when attending these events.

Katharine died on 4 May 1914 at her home in North Adelaide after a short illness. She was

buried in the Way Vault in the West Terrace Cemetery, following a service in Christ Church, North Adelaide. The cortege travelled from Christ Church via the Morphett Street Bridge to West Terrace, where many people were crowded along the route and the entrance for the arrival. The funeral procession included troopers leading, followed by 17 carriages containing dignitaries (the hearse and two wagons of flowers were included). When Catherine died her four children were alive, sadly within a few months, her eldest and youngest sons had both died on distant shores.

Her time and life in Strathalbyn was remembered by Christ Church (on East Terrace) when a stained glass window was dedicated on 28 May 1916 reflecting her kindness and generosity to the people of Strathalbyn.



Sir Samuel Way died 8 January 1916 and is also buried in West Terrace with parents, his sister and Katharine.

Katharine was a forward thinking woman of her time –as this report shows –

“In June 1904 she addressed the National Council of Women and looked forward to life in 2000 when women would be free of household duties, would wear short hair and sensible clothes, and men would stay home with the children while women became the breadwinners”.

I wonder what she would think of the life of women and girls in 2022!

ALDINGA SCHOOL By Lynette Gibson

The original Aldinga school building was opened in September 1856. It was a stone building with a class room with desks and seats. As well there was a teacher’s residence of four rooms set on half an acre of land. The building cost 410 pounds. It was situated on the corner of Quinliven Road and Port Road. The first school master was John Tyson.

The building remained virtually the same for about 100 years and as the building was deteriorating it was demolished in the 1950s and temporary wooden buildings were then used until the 1970s when a fire destroyed all but one of the buildings. They were replaced but with the expansion of the local population a new and larger school was needed. This was opened on 24 April 1881 and was situated on Quinliven Road.

Lynette Gibson

Aldinga School 1950



VIETNAM HEROES By Florence Stopps

VIETNAM HEROES

*They are the Vietnam Veterans,
That Australia sent to war.
Their names were picked by lottery,
Not as Volunteers were sent before.*

*It was not a popular decision –
They bore the brunt of public disdain.
But they fought with valour and with pride,
Even though it was another country's campaign.*

*So, not just on anniversary days,
Let us show how much we care
For our Vietnam Heroes and their loved ones –
Give support for their needs and their welfare.*

*When we all chant “Lest We Forget”
Please know these words include you.
We're grateful for all your sacrifices.
Our Vietnam Heroes – we salute you!*

By Florence Stopps

November 2020

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CREATING MEMORIES FROM NUMBERS By Colin Routley

I grew up on a farming property at Mundoora, near the mid-north coastal town of Port Broughton. My father and mother had taken over the Dalling family farm, the property of my mother's parents – Edgar and May Dalling. Sadly, all four of my grandparents died quite young. Grandma Dalling was the last to go at 66 years of age, four months before my eighth birthday. After my dad passed away in 2016, amongst his old treasures I grabbed for safe keeping were a couple of old ledger journals. A smaller one from Grandpa Dalling recorded expenditure from 1907 to 1930, and the other belonged to my dad. Dad's journal documents business and personal expenditure spanning 45 years – from 1949 until 1994, when my older brother took over the property.



It's only recently that I began perusing through Dad's ledger book. I had seen it before many times but had not really studied it. Just as a photograph will spark a memory, so have many of the ledger entries, encouraging me to dig deeper. Most – but not all – naturally relate to farm expenditure. There was a payment in 1952 to the Snowtown District Hospital for £24.3.6 – the cost of Mum's stay in the hospital when I was born!

In 1953, the biggest outlay was the princely sum of £427.5.10, described 'O.M. Arbon (Lights)'. This was the cost of the installation of electrical conduits, wiring and fittings for a 32-volt generator and battery system that had been installed in the shed. I remember it being in the tractor shed, just in front of where the truck was parked. A few ledger entries further down is 'R.D. Gill Shed - £205.7.2'. Ron Gill was the proprietor of the Mundoora General Store. Dad's policy was to buy local. In those days you could buy almost anything at your local general store.

Prior to all this, Mum and Dad were still relying on candles and kerosene lamps everywhere – including inside the house! Dad had grown up on the Routley farm just south of Port Broughton, and it was much better appointed than the Dalling property at Mundoora. By 1942 Mum was living in a house at Port Broughton where she became very much accustomed to the luxury of electric light. After their marriage in 1948, Mum and Dad moved into a flat built at the Routley farm by Grandpa Dalling (Mum's dad). It was not long after the birth of my older brother in March 1949 that they took over the Mundoora property. It was back to basics for both of them.



Mum with her parents at the Mundoora farm, early 1940s

But one ledger entry really jumped out. In 1959, Dad paid £875 to 'Measday's Agricultural Service'. This was for aerial spraying of crops, a huge expense for this era. This is when a childhood photo did help. I have a photo of my younger brother and me in front of an aero-

plane. I didn't remember exactly when it was taken but I reckoned I must have been about seven.

The plane was possibly a 'CA-28 Ceres'. It had been developed by the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation, based on the 'Wirraway trainer' used by the RAAF in World War Two. (Ref CAC Ceres - Wikipedia).

The guidance system consisted of the farmer and his oldest son, each with a white flag, standing at either end of the paddock. After each pass of the plane they moved a few paces across.

So now I was able to match this photo with a ledger entry.

The last entry on the ledger shown above also notes the purchase of another 'Prefabricated Shed' from the same Mundoora General Store, then owned by Ray and Ada Evans.

Colin Routley

With my younger brother (our ghostly dog in the foreground) looking east towards the old farmhouse. The cropduster is parked for the night.

W. H. Liddle (Cannon St. Sydney)	176	0	
Gen. Insurance Co. (Can.)	136	17	1
X. M. L. (Sydney)	12	9	7
Prefabricated Shed (Mundoora)	875	-	-
On 20/10/1917	77	12	2
Buy of M. L. (Can.)	16	-	6
Ch. Van der. (Sydney)	3	7	6
W. L. L. (Sydney)	12	3	10
W. L. L. (Sydney)	47	8	4
R. L. L. (Sydney)	24	8	6
S. W. L. (Sydney)	26	4	3
W. L. L. (Sydney)	429	1	10



ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW IN FAMILY HISTORY

By Kath Fisher

Sometimes we coast along thinking that there is not much new to be found on our family tree or we haven't encountered any new relatives on DNA. We know better but sometimes we are missing that excitement generated by finding new relatives. I was beginning to wonder about what next when within one week I encountered new relatives, all of whom prompted exploration of mysteries to be solved and exchanges of information etc. The pressure was on as all my contacts were keen for immediate answers.

It began when Kerry Edwards (FPFHG) sent me a message to say that she had seen a photo in the 'Can You Help' page of the Sunday Mail asking if anyone could identify who were in the photo. The person suspected the Barnett family from Natimuk near Horsham, Victoria and one name was known, Eliza Gitsham, nee Barnett. I knew who she was and from my knowledge of who were in Natimuk at the time and their ages was able to name all in the photo. It helped to have a photo



of my own great great grandmother, Elenor Pedler (nee Barnett) who was very like Eliza. In fact there was quite a distinctive mouth, information which I shared with my new found cousin Margaret. The others were Henry Barnett who Margaret was descended from and Sabina Storen (nee Barnett). The great pleasure for me was that the elderly couple in the photo were my great, great, great grandparents, John and Harriet (nee Needham) Barnett who were among the Lace makers of Calais who arrived in South Australia on the *Harpley* in 1848. I had never seen a photo of them.

Margaret and I shared information. She knew all about the Victorian branches of the family and had many photos to share. She knew about them as Lace makers of Calais but did not know about the history of this. Having done a presentation to the FPFHG with Cheryl Williss I was able to send a lot of information to her. Although Margaret suspected that Emma Needham (Harriett's sister who was also on the *Harpley*) was related somehow she did not know her story which I had researched and shared with her. We had a couple of long chats on the phone and have shared all our photos and information. She has ordered a plaque to go on the unmarked grave of John Barnett at Terowie and I will join her in placing it on the site.

During this time I noticed the surname Milner when I did my regular DNA checks. It is not a family surname I see often as my closest Milner ancestor was my paternal great great grandmother born Jemima Milner in Deighton, Yorkshire. However, she had a brother William Milner who had married my maternal grandmother's aunt in London. When her aunt died my grandmother and her sister, Francis moved in with him. Their father, my great grandfather had also died and the two families helped each other out. I initiated contact with Andrew Milner and his wife who manages his DNA and family history. We discovered that William was his great grandfather but he didn't know anything about him.



I did know quite a lot about mum's great uncle William Milner. In 1991 my mother was with us on a trip to the UK and when we were in the railway museum in York she pointed to a device used to collect post by trains as they passed by and said that her great uncle Bill had invented it. Later, when doing family history I asked mum about William Milner who she remembered as a child, as he lived with my great grandmother and a couple of great aunts at Glenelg. He followed them there in 1922 after they had followed my grandmother who had moved to South Australia as a result of marrying my grandfather at the end of WW1. They met as she helped to care for grandpa, while he recovered from being a POW, in his great uncle's place in London. When he was sent home as a soldier grandma could not share a room with him on the ship but did manage to come on the same ship. This was in 1919.

Andrew knew that his grandmother's name was Francis Mary May Milner and according to my mother I knew that she was not well liked in the family. It was said that she was unhappy with William's Will after he died in 1940 and was not interested in any of his things. So she had been in Adelaide then but I had assumed that she had visited from overseas. Andrew was aware that she was in Adelaide from 1926 until her death in 1961. I soon found records of her address in Adelaide in the name of Frances Tagg. She was possibly married to a John Tagg in the early 1900s but I have not found a record of this yet and she had a son William (Bill) Tagg in London in 1911 but John did not come to Adelaide with them. Bill became

involved in the army militia after becoming estranged from Frances in 1928. He married in Sydney in 1937 and served in the air force during WW2. He changed his name to William Tagg Milner.



The interesting piece of research I did was to track John Tagg who Andrew did not know anything about at all. Using 'Find – My – Past' records I found him. He was born in Glasgow in 1865 and had a long history as a con man which included stints in gaol, numerous bankruptcy records, census records with different wives and even one with his son William while Frances is nearby in another city. Fortunately, John always gave an accurate record of where and when he was born. Andrew and his wife were delighted to find out about him regardless of the picture I painted. I received a lovely box of flowers which they organised as they live in Brisbane. I have a great number of photos which belonged to my great grandmother in which key people of Andrew's ancestry can be seen. They are coming over in a few months to look through.

To my surprise I also received a message on Ancestry from Keith (England) with whom I share five times great grandparents, Robert and Anne Welbourn from the mid-1700s, Lincolnshire. Keith is descended from one son John and I from another son Thomas Welbourn. His son was also Thomas Welbourn (photo) who migrated with his wife Hannah (nee Playford) to South Australia in 1837. Real pioneers. Keith had his family tree worked on by a professional genealogist and he was contacting people who had trees with his ancestors on. He has some doubts about some of the information as geography doesn't properly match. Although Ancestry DNA did not show a match he noticed that Gedmatch did, even though it was under 7Cm. Seemed possible with so many generations separating us.



Keith informed me that my Thomas had a younger brother William who came to SA in 1858. I followed through on this research. Keith also told me that his ancestor John also had a son William who he had confused with Thomas' brother as his history was unknown. I believe that I found him as being transported to Australia for his crime in 1843. He was released in 1853 and I think that he ended up in Reynella by 1867 where he lived and worked as a mason. This still needs following up. In the meantime Keith is looking into our shared ancestors Robert and Anne, by tracking down a marriage certificate. He is very thorough so I am looking forward to what he finds.

All of these activities occurred over a three week period which was indeed an entertaining time. I am looking forward to follow up contacts. So, there is always something new in genealogy.

Kath Fisher

CHARLES HILL PAINTING (1870) By Kerry Edwards

The People in the Charles Hill Painting (1870) of Proclamation Day, Glenelg, 1836

On 21 February 2022 I attended a Pioneers SA Proclamation Day Dinner at the Glenelg Golf Club, delayed from 28 December 2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions. The evening included a very interesting talk by noted historian Dr Susan Marsden PhD, MPHA on the topic "The People in the Charles Hill Painting (1870) of Proclamation Day, Glenelg, 1836". Also at the dinner were our members Michael Smith, Peter and Kath Fisher.



Charles Hill was born in Coventry, England in 1824 and died in 1915 in Adelaide. He immigrated to South Australia on the ship *Historia* and arrived in 1854. Therefore he was not present on the initial Proclamation Day in 1836. He found work as an art teacher. He was commissioned to paint this event and started in 1855. It took him 20 years because he was also working. The painting is in the Art Gallery of South Australia but very rarely displayed because of its large size. About 200 people were at the Proclamation event although 500 people had immigrated by then. Others may have been on Kangaroo Island or moved to other states that had been more established. His grandchildren have passed on letters as a record of how he interviewed people who were here at the time, as to who was present. He also had access to photographs.

Some interesting aspects of the painting are that he painted equal numbers of men and women, children, servants and Aborigines when that was not the case. The dogs with the Aborigines are UK breeds and should have been dingoes. Who's Who books later suggested people paid to be in the painting, even though they were not present. Robert Gouger is fading away so you do not see his face. Colonel William Light is in a red and white military uniform in the centre of this painting when he was actually ill with Tuberculosis and a long way away. The vegetation is not accurate as it is English.

There are 175 people in the painting of which 75 are named. The table in part shows 1 His Excellency Captain Sir John Hindmarsh, 2 Colonel William Light R. E. Surveyor General, 3 Captain Thomas Lipson R. N., 4 Commander Wood R. N. of the H. M. Ship *Buffalo*, 5 Sir James Hurtle Fisher, 6 Sir John Morphett, 7 Sir George Kingston, 8 Honourable Boyle Travers Finniss, 9 Honourable Dr Charles George Everard.

Dr Marsden has been looking for descendants of those in this painting and has found some interesting people, such as Senator Penny Wong. If any one is a descendant please contact her via her email smarsden@bigpond.net.au.



Kerry Edwards

411 SAPPER SAMUEL HENRY BOLITHO

By Jenny Chapman

My paternal grandfather Sam Bolitho's story is to follow. He served in World War One and returned to Port Augusta where he lived for the remaining years of his life. He died in 1946, the year before I was born, so I of course never met him. He was buried in the Carlton Parade Cemetery in Port Augusta and a simple wooden cross was placed on his grave. Over the years the cross deteriorated and disintegrated so that for many years there was nothing to identify who was buried in the grave. The family of course did know where Grandpa was buried and he was visited on occasions by many of us.



In February 2021 I was contacted by Ian Hopley from The Headstone Project enquiring if I was related to Samuel Henry Bolitho buried in the unmarked grave. I confirmed that I was one of his surviving grandchildren and thus started the process to have his war service recognised by the placement of a new brass plaque on his grave. I furnished the information for the inscription and finally, after several hiccups due to Covid, a dedication ceremony was held on 19 February 2022.

In company with 16 of his fellow servicemen, Samuel Bolitho was recognised for his service at a moving ceremony at the Carlton Parade Cemetery. Our family was represented by 24 descendents from four generations, the largest group in attendance on the day. Each family was presented with a boxed set of service medals earned by their ancestor and their graves, complete with their new plaques, were each decorated with a poppy wreath and flag for family members to photograph. We were all very moved to be present and have our grandfather recognised in this way.

Jenny Chapman



411 SAPPER Samuel Henry BOLITHO

8th Machine Gun Company

Samuel (Sam) Bolitho was born in Sandhurst, an area of the Bendigo goldfields, on 10 July, 1882, the oldest child of William Bolitho and Ellen Bolitho nee Shard. He was baptised on 25 August, 1882, at All Saints Church, Bendigo. Along with his many siblings, Sam grew up in the decades when Bendigo was the richest goldfield in the world and his father and uncles were working to mine the riches. He became a blacksmith, no doubt learning his trade at one of the mine workings, and in the 1905 Electoral Roll was listed as living at Gladstone Street, Quarry Hill, with his parents.

On 13 February, 1907, Sam married Ann May Rose, a spinster from the little town of Lauriston, in St Pauls Church, Bendigo. Over the next two years their two sons were born: William Lindsay, in November 1907, and my father Samuel Jeffrie (Jeff) in September 1909.

Early in 1912, Sam and his wife made the decision to move to the outback town of Port Augusta in South Australia. Port Augusta is situated at the top of Spencer Gulf and was established around 1852 as a port to service the surrounding rural areas. The clipper ships would have moored in its natural harbour and loaded wheat and other cargo from its jetties.

By 1912 the Commonwealth Railways was establishing a terminus with workshops and a maintenance depot to service the trains heading north to Alice Springs. In 1913 the building of the East West Rail link to Kalgoorlie and Perth was commenced and Sam's trade as a blacksmith would have been in demand over the next four years as it was being built.



This is where Sam Bolitho was living when war broke out in 1914, and for the next 19 months he continued to work there, no doubt in a reserved occupation but also, as a family man of over 30 years of age, he was not required or expected to enlist.

However, on 15 March, 1916, his patriotism and, perhaps the desire for some excitement and adventure, got the better of him and he enlisted in Port Augusta to serve with the AIF. By this time he was 33 years and eight months old and had progressed in the railways to being a locomotive driver. He was 5 feet 7 and half inches tall and weighed 148 pounds, so was short and wiry, as were most of his Cornish ancestors. He had grey eyes and brown hair and listed his religion as Church of England, naming his wife Ann May Bolitho as his next of kin.

Sam was sent down to Adelaide and went to Mitcham Camp where he spent three months training with the 6th Reinforcements for the 8th Machine Gun Company. The Mitcham camp is shown below. After doing his initial training at Mitcham, the machine-gunners were sent to Seymour in Victoria for more specialist training prior to embarking overseas. On 20 October, 1916, he embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Port Lincoln* (shown **next page**) on his way to the war, by now firmly bogged down on the Western Front in France. Also on board was Sam's younger brother, Leonard, as a reinforcement for the 46th Battalion. The pair arrived in England in December 1916, and Sam was taken on strength by the 5th Division Machine Gun Company (training depot) stationed at Perham Downs in the south of England.



Leonard was sent to the 12th Training Battalion at Codford.

In April 1917, Sam proceeded to France with his unit to their base camp near Camiers. He remained there until August 1917, when he proceeded back to England to the Training depot at Codford. Here, over the next four months, I believe he trained as a sapper before proceeding back to France in January 1918, where he joined the 16th Light Railway Company. Once again, his experience in his trade as a blacksmith and loco driver would have been in demand.

The sappers of the Light Railway Companies built and maintained the track systems which were used by small locomotives to supply the forward troops with ammunition and supplies. These were crucial in supplying the troops, freeing up horse-drawn wagons which were likely to fail in the badly rutted and shell-damaged tracks up to the battlefield areas from the supply depots. Between January and April 1918, Sam moved between the 16th, 17th and 14th Light Rail Companies, until on 21 April he was admitted to hospital in Boulogne with an injury to his left hand.

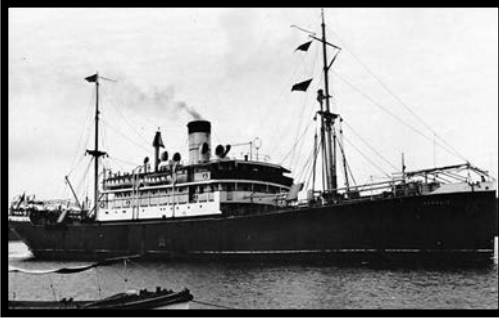
By 25 April, Sam was back in England in Eastern General Hospital in Cambridge (shown **below**), receiving treatment on his hand. His treatment continued over the next three months and by June 1918 he was able to go on furlough to London, where he no doubt had a wonderful time after the rigours of life in the field in France.



In September 1918 Sam's fitness to serve was assessed after he complained of pain in his legs when marching. It was discovered that an old pre-war injury was causing his legs to bow and that he was now unfit for army service, but as this was a pre-existing injury he was not eligi-

ble for any army pension. He was awarded all three Service Medals.

Sam Bolitho returned to Australia on board the *Somalia* (shown left) arriving in December, 1918. He was discharged at Keswick Barracks in Adelaide on 6 March, 1919. He returned to his family and job in the railways in Port Augusta three years after his enlistment to serve his country on the other side of the world.



Sam and his wife Annie raised their two sons and subsequently a daughter, Betty, was added to the family. He continued to work in the railway workshops as a fitter until 1941. Over those years he also continued his record of community service, as he was actively associated with many civic, social and sporting bodies, serving on the local Town Council and holding a number of executive commissions with

distinction.

Samuel Henry Bolitho died suddenly on 10 September, 1946, from a cerebral thrombosis, leaving his wife and three children to mourn but also many friends and colleagues in the wider Port Augusta community. He was buried on 12 September at the Carlton Parade Cemetery with his war service recognised on the simple white cross placed on his grave.

Sam's family continued to live in Port Augusta and now, over 100 years later, many of his great grandchildren and their children still live there.

POSTSCRIPT

Samuel Henry Bolitho was one of four Bolitho brothers, who enlisted to serve their country in World War 1.

His three brothers enlisted in Victoria where they had been born and still lived. Only Sam and his family had moved away to live in South Australia. They were:

Private Arthur Bolitho S/N 733, 7th Battalion, 1st Australian Overseas Expeditionary Forces. He enlisted in Bendigo and sailed with the first troops to the War. He landed on Gallipoli on the first day and was severely wounded and repatriated back to England. He survived and returned to Australia to live a long life in Victoria.

Private Frank Lucas Bolitho S/N 5042, 7th Battalion 16th Reinforcements. Frank enlisted in Bendigo and sailed to England with the 7th Battalion reinforcements. Due to ill health he did not see active service but was posted to the Military Police where he served but sadly died on 25 May 1917 from complications due to mastoiditis. He is buried in Tidworth Cemetery.

Private Leonard Bolitho S/N 2626, 6th Battalion, 6th Reinforcements Leonard enlisted in Geelong Victoria. He served with the Battalion and remained in England after the war serving at Army Headquarters. He married an English girl and they returned to Australia where he was discharged.

THEY SERVED
THEY DESERVE
TO BE REMEMBERED



Our Story

The Headstone Project, which came into being in Tasmania in late 2011 is dedicated to ensure that all our First World War veterans have their last resting place suitably marked.

The parent organisation is the Families and Friends of the First AIF.

When found, these graves are marked with a simple pedestal headstone and plaque that acknowledges the soldier's service to Australia.

Research has shown that in Tasmania, where the project originated, there are some 500 soldiers lying in unmarked graves throughout that state. Nationally, it is estimated that there may be as 12,000 similar unmarked graves.

In early 2017, the Hobart based committee realised that there was a need to expand their search for these unmarked graves to the mainland states, and as part of that process, a South Australian committee was formed.

Currently the South Australian committee has identified approximately 50 grave sites that require further investigation, and it is estimated that there may be in excess of 1000 unmarked graves across this state.

Being an entirely voluntary organisation, the headstone Project is entirely dependent on raising funds for these graves, and we have received support from the Government of South Australia, the RSL, some personal donations, and sponsorship for goods and services from commercial organisations.

Do you know of a First World War veteran who currently lies in an unmarked grave in South Australia?

If so, the Headstone Project SA would like to hear from you.

The Headstone Project would welcome donations from all South Australians and South Australian business entities.

Our bank details are:
Headstone Project SA
BSB: 015-300
Account: #2286-84883



DELAMERE SCHOOL By Lynette Gibson

James Collins owned Section 1498 in the area now known as Delamere and in mid 1860s he gave part of it to the School Trustees because at the time the residents of Bullaparinga and Glenburn (now Delamere) were asking for a school to be built. Previous to this some short-lived schools had existed but a permanent building was in need.

In 1865 Charles Stockbridge was appointed as master at the Glenburn school which operated in temporary accommodation until the new building was completed. The school was situated on the corner of Cole Road and the Main Road to Cape Jervis. The foundation stone was laid by Mrs Collins in 1866 and the building completed by mid 1867.

A teacher's residence was necessary so a parcel of land was purchased from James Collins and the building completed by the end of 1886. The school functioned until 1990 when it was finally closed.

An interesting article appeared in the *Register Newspaper* of 3 August 1883 stating that the school was shut for a week as the teacher had disappeared. He had been thought in high regard in the district but it seems as though he had been paying attention to several of the young ladies in the district at the same time. The brother of one of the young ladies obviously had a severe interaction with him and he left the district before the locals found out. It also was revealed he had a wife and three children in Western Australia.

Lynette Gibson



© Photos of the Past

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.

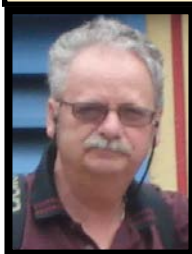
23 April —Kath, Joan, Lyn, Mary Ann—Anzac Revisited

21 May—Ian Moffat. Flinders Archaeologist “Finding Lost Graves”

18 June—Beth Robertson, Edward Stirling Story

16 July—John Andrewartha, West Torrens Area

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: 4 May, 18 May, 21 May, 1 June, 15 June, 18 June, 6 July, 16 July, 20 July.

EVENING COMPUTER GROUP



The evening computer class is held in the Uniting Church Hall, 23 William Street, Christies Beach. A \$5.00 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.

10 YEAR MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

The Executive Committee would like to acknowledge the following members who were presented with their 10 Year Membership Certificates at the March meeting.

Jeanette and Alan Stacey.



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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



I can't believe we are nearly in April already and the second journal for the year is complete.

Thank you to all the members who have generously forwarded their contributions for inclusion in this edition. It is a pleasure to read and collate them for the enjoyment of all our members.

I look forward to receiving your contributions for our next edition in July. If you get the opportunity to attend events during SA History Month in May, then share your experiences—and don't forget to include your photos.

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/United States 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) - \$35.00

Single—\$30.00

Membership with Printed Journal:

Family (2 people) - \$40.00

Single—\$35.00

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.

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