# THE HENLEY AND GRANGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JOURNAL

**NUMBER 2** 

APRIL 1981



# THE HENLEY AND GRANGE

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Address: P.O. Box 80, Henley Beach, S.A., 5022.

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# DIARY OF MEETINGS, MAY - NOVEMBER, 1981

General Meeting - Friday, 1st May

General Meeting - Friday, 31st July

<u>Annual General Meeting</u> -Friday, 6th November

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An Exhibition is planned for September.

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Mr. G.R. Willoughby

Mrs. A. Willoughby

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#### THE SOCIETY, MAY 1980 - APRIL 1981

With the President, Vice-President and Secretary all overseas during the period late May to early September, 1980, it was decided that the Society would go into recess during that time.

Organized activities began again with a General Meeting held on 26th September, 1980.

The meeting was advised of the generous donation of \$200, presented to the Society by the Henley Grange and West Beach Women's Services Association. Mrs. Edwards had accepted this cheque on behalf of the Society at an 'At Home' evening held by them on 6th June.

The guest speaker for the evening was Mr. D. McCarthy, who gave a most interesting talk on his recent trip around the world in connection with his Hockeridge Fellowship Award. Many slides were shown, and special comments made on visits to Henley-on-Thames in England and Kirkcaldy in Scotland. (It was generally regretted that the name Kirkcaldy has now disappeared from our local map.)

The Annual General Meeting of the Society, for 1980, was held on 7th November. The venue, as for all other meetings mentioned in this journal, was the main staff room at Henley High School.

Mrs. B. Edwards gave the Secretary's report, reviewing activities and progress, and the Treasurer's report was given by Miss H. Hanrahan.

Elections were held for 4 committee positions and auditor.

Then members of the Society spoke on the early days of four of the districts' institutions.

Mr. N. Newcombe spoke about the early history of the Henley Methodist Church, basing his talk largely on notes compiled some years ago, for the church paper, by Mr. H.J. Allen.

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The first year or so of the Henley and Grange Council were reviewed by Mr. D. McCarthy, who drew on Corporation records to illustrate these beginnings.

Mr. G. Willoughby spoke of the players (female and male) whose enthusiasm had led to the founding of the Grange Hockey Club.

And incidents from the first few years of the Henley High School were recounted by Mr. E. Hasenohr.

These short talks were very well received, as were a second series, given at the next General Meeting.

At this meeting, held on 30th January, 1981, Mrs. A. Nietz gave information about her great-grandfather, Mr. J.H. Both, who was living in the area in 1840.

The historical researches and writings of the late Mr. L. Dalziel were commented on by Mrs. E. Hasenohr, who then read excerpts from what was planned to be the first chapter of a local history. The excerpts dealt, in poetical fashion, with the Kaurna, the aboriginal inhabitants of the area.

Mr. D. McCarthy quoted sections from a transcription of a tape recording of a commentary given by Mrs. M. White, describing early days at Fulham and Henley. The original recording was made during a very pleasant visit to Weetunga, and district tour, by committee members.

The story of the earliest years of the Grange Institute was recounted by Mr. G. Ralph, with the aid of carefully researched correspondence and documents.

Mr. E. Hasenohr read, and commented on, a selection of quotations from Captain White's accounts of two expeditions into remote parts of South Australia.

Interspersed with these general meetings have been committee meetings, to discuss the Society's programme, and general matters. The most recent of these meetings was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Henley and Grange, Mr. and Mrs. P. Cates. Council support and the need for a 'home' for the Society were among topics discussed.

The next General Meeting is planned for 1st May, when the guest speaker will be Mr. John Simons, Chairman of the River Torrens Committee. His topic will be the history of the Torrens, and the Torrens Project.

#### HELPING WITH ORAL HISTORY

The Secretary of the South Australian Branch of the Oral History Association of Australia has written to our secretary, outlining a problem that exists re the availability and utilization of 'tapes of interviews with people who have interesting and significant memories of the past.' With the letter was enclosed a brief summary of a request for assistance in the Archives.

Perhaps some of our members would be interested in this work.

'The South Australian Branch of the Oral History Association requires the services of volunteers to assist in the transcribing and indexing of tapes of interviews that the Branch has collected and placed in the sound collection of the State Archives.

Oral history describes the technique of recording spoken reminiscences. An ever increasing number of historians is using this method to document people's impressions and memories of past events and experiences.

The Branch aims to promote the practice and methods of oral history, and, since it was formed in February 1979, has conducted a number of workshops to educate people in the techniques required for successful interviewing.

In order to make the information obtained in interviews accessible to researchers transcription of each tape and indexing of names and subjects mentioned is essential. If anyone is interested in volunteering for such work, or if anyone is interested in joining the Association please contact:

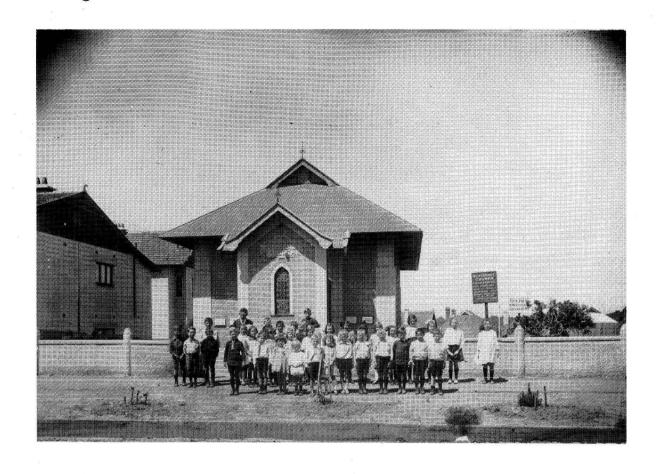
Paul or Margaret Souter,
Box 15, P.O.,
Stirling. 5152.

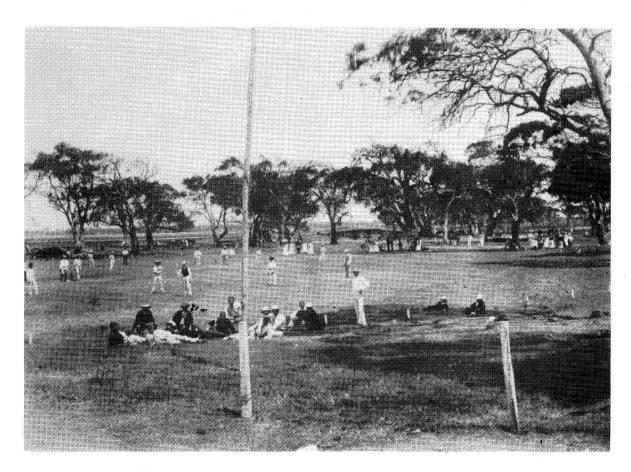
The first Methodist Church, Henley Beach.

(See article, pp 13 - 16)

An early cricket match at the Grange.

(The old Beach Street Bridge is in the background.)





#### SIX ASPECTS OF LOCAL HISTORY

As has been said in the general report, a series of short talks was a well-received feature of two of the recent general meetings of the Society.

A selection of six of these talks is given here. They exemplify the variety and scope of the historical material available in and about our area, and we hope that many more such talks, and short articles, will be forthcoming, from members - all of these six talks were given by members of the Society - and from other interested people.

They represent a gathering and a presentation of information, interesting chapters in themselves and one day, perhaps, of assistance to a compiler of a general history of Henley and Grange.

#### THE GRANGE HOCKEY CLUB - THE BEGINNINGS

I wonder how many of you knew, before one of the roads to West Lakes began to take you past it, that there was such a club, let alone knew that the men's section of it, in 1980, was in its 50th playing year. The club's grounds are on that part of the Grange Recreation Reserve immediately to the east of the main oval. They have been at that location since 1948.

It is not a small, insignificant club. In the season just ended, it had 222 playing members, male and female, of whom 100 were juniors. It is the leading club in South Australia.

However, I am to talk about its start, not the present. You could be pardoned for thinking: 'What can there be of interest in the start of a sporting club?' But, as so often is the case when you delve into history, many interesting facts are discovered. For instance, I am sure that it is not generally realised that there are several early links between the Council and the club.

To get to the start of the men's club, I had to go back earlier than 1931, when they started playing; and, like the commencement of so many good things in the world, we have to thank the ladies for the start of the Grange Hockey Club.

In 1917, the owner and licensee of the Grange Hotel was a Mr. Kerrison, who had two daughters and a son. One daughter, Ina, was then aged 17. She had attended secondary school in an eastern suburb. One day some of her friends from school-days suggested she should do as they were doing - play hockey, and form a team in her district. Ina loved sport, and she set about contacting local girls to see if enough were interested. This wasn't a particularly difficult task in those days - everyone knew everyone else in the relatively sparsely populated Grange district.

Several girls showed interest. Among them was Nell Sinclair, a member of a family well-known in the district - the Sinclairs who lived near the junction of Beach Street and Seaview Road. She later became Nell Hughes.

The girls bought some playing equipment - hockey sticks and a ball - and began looking at the many vacant areas in the district for a place to play. They chose a paddock on the eastern side of Swan Street, between Jetty and Beach Streets. It was a rather sandy and undulating area, but they managed to play on it.

After a while, they wanted to play against others. I don't know how they came to choose them, but a match was organised against the men of the Grange Bowling Club. The men wore dresses or skirts, and a large gathering witnessed the fun. The girls played against the bowlers two or three more times.

The following year - 1918 - the girls decided they would nominate a team for the official girls' competition. To do this, they needed a name and colours. The war had been on for some years, and the events of it, especially Gallipoli, were in everyone's hearts and minds. Before the Anzacs landed on Gallipoli, they had assembled on a small island in the Aegean Sea, called Lemnos. As a gesture towards the brave Anzacs, the girls decided to call their team not Grange, but Lemnos. And, as a further gesture, they decided their uniform colours would be khaki and red good old army colours. The uniform consisted of a khaki dress, stockings, red beret and tie.

They also needed a coach. Living in the district was a person well-known in Adelaide dentistry - Jack Mount. He was also a hockey player As he was the Kerrison family dentist, Ina asked him if he would coach the team; and he agreed. Next, they had to supply an umpire for their 'home' matches. Adrian Crispe, a member of a family well-known in Grange, agreed to umpire for them.

They now needed a better ground than the sandy, bumpy one they practised on. Henley and Grange had been incorporated as a Council in 1915. What is now the Grange Recreation Reserve was then under the control of the Woodville Council, and was used for grazing cattle and by the employees of the Eastern Cable Company as a recreation area. (The cable came ashore on the beach at Tennyson, west of the reserve.)

The girls obtained permission to use this area. Present day players would probabily be a little dismayed if they were asked to play on such a ground. The grass was never cut, the area was bumpy and very slushy in winter; and cow manure caused problems. However, for the girls it became their home ground.

For their away matches, they had to travel by train into the Adelaide Hills and to Gawler. For the Gawler matches, they had to leave Grange at 9 a.m., and got home about 6 p.m. The opposition team usually provided them with food during the day.

The hockey girls took part in local activities such as the procession from Grange to Henley which was held during the Henley Regatta in January each year. They also joined with boys of the Grange Sailing Club in putting on concerts and fancy dress balls in the Town Hall. These were usually very well attended.

When the girls first began hitting a ball on the area in Swan Street, looking at them over the back fence of their home, which had its front in High Street, were two young sisters - Marj and Isobelle Kelly. They had brothers Erskine, Hartleigh and Wally. Their father, 'Ned', had a garage near the Grange Station, and ran a taxi service for many years to Estcourt House.

Just before Lemnos went out of existence - in 1922 or 1923 - because most of the players were in the throes of motherhood, Marj Kelly began playing with them; and she continued playing hockey at University while she was there studying music. In 1925, she decided that there might again be enough girls in the district who would like to play the game. There were, and she formed a team and called it Grange.

They had their home ground in High Street - opposite where St. Laurence's Home for the Aged now is. They, too, had to supply an umpire, and obtained the services of Cyril Baxter, a well-known sporting identity. This Grange team lasted until about 1933 when most of their players, like the Lemnos girls earlier, had the responsibilities of motherhood.

In 1929, Marj Kelly's two young brothers, Hartleigh and Wally, went out with the girls for a hit. As they couldn't afford hockey sticks, they used, instead, boughs from tamarix trees which were plentiful in the district. Isobelle Kelly began keeping company with a George Lucas, who played hockey for the Forestville Club, and soon he asked Hartleigh whether he would like to come out with Forestville for a game. Hartleigh agreed, and he and a frient Jack Anthony played for Forestville in 1930. Twice a week, they caught the first train (6 a.m.) from Grange, then walked to the South Parklands for practice before they went off to work. Numbers coming to practice began to get less and less, until only the two Grange boys were attending. They didn't think much of that idea, and began thinking about forming a team at Grange.

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As Ina Kerrison and Marj Kelly had done, they went around the district seeking players, and found enough interested to form a team. This first team comprised Jack Anthony, Ron 'Copper' Botten, Archie and Paul Church, Dennis Harrington, Alaric Hawke (son of the Congregational Minister), Hartleigh and Wally Kelly, George Lucas, Tom Tucker, Russell Wallace and Ken Williams. In their first year they shared the ladies' ground in High Street. Later, they went to the Grange Oval, then to an area known as Messenger's paddock, on the other side of the river from Captain Sturt's house.

The team was successful from the start. In their first year, they were premiers of the Second Grade, and since then Grange has become the most successful club in South Australia, at one stage winning the A Grade premiership for 10 consecutive years.

In their second year, they decided to have a second team. One person who began in that team was 16 year old Merv Rankin. In 1981, the same Merv Rankin will be playing in his 50th consecutive year of hockey - truly a remarkable achievement.

Women's teams were formed again in 1975 and are now part of the Grange Hockey Club. In 1980, the club had a total of 18 teams.

Marj Kelly is now Patron of the women's side of the club. She and her brother Hartleigh are Life Members of the club, as is Merv Rankin. Ina Kerrison, the Lemnos girl, became Ina Willcox, and at 80 now lives in a unit at Lockleys.

I mentioned earlier that there were links between the Council and the hockey club.

Lemnos girl Nell Sinclair's father became Henley and Grange's first Mayor in 1915. He was a magistrate, and a well-known eccentric in the district.

Ina Kerrison's father was Mayor of Henley and Grange from 1921 to 1923. Marj Kelly married local boy Keith (Kip) Mitton, and her fatherin-law, E.W. Mitton, was Mayor of Henley and Grange in 1936.

Nell Hughes (nee Sinclair) became the first female to be appointed a town clerk, when during World War II, she was appointed acting town clerk of Hindmarsh, during the absence on active service of the town clerk. After the war, she worked in the Henley and Grange Council office. It was her findings in the records that led to the then town clerk being dismissed and prosecuted.

The club has always had a very good relationship with Council, having shown from the start that it was prepared to help itself rather than wanting Council to do everything for it. Because of this attitude, Council has always been very helpful, and in 1981 that help will culminate in considerable assistance from Council as the club holds Australia's prestige hockey event of the year - the National Senior Championships.

As a gesture to its 50th year celebrations, the club was awarded the honour of holding these championships during May 1981. Before then, much activity and work will take place at the club grounds to make them worthy of this honour.

George R. Willoughby.

(Editor's note.

George Willoughby has written a detailed history of the club. The book will be launched at a dinner for past and present members, on 13th June, and will have the title:

The Grange Hockey Club
A Fifty Year History
1931 - 1981.

Copies will be available from the club.)

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#### THE EARLY DAYS OF THE HENLEY BEACH METHODIST CHURCH

Some years ago, Mr. J.H. Allen, M.A., wrote a series of articles with the above title, in the Church news letters. I have closely followed the text of these articles in compiling my talk this evening, selecting parts that I thought could be of particular interest with adaptations where necessary to keep within the limits of a short talk. We are very grateful that Mr. Allen has chronicled aspects of the early history of the church in this way.

As Mr. Allen wrote, the earliest records of our church at Henley Beach are those provided by the minutes of the Church Trust. These go back to March 1911, but they do not deal with the beginning, for then the services had already commenced in the Henley Beach Hall.

The minutes of the Trust give no indication where the Henley Beach Hall was situated, nor what the hall was mainly used for. Older residents, however, agree that the hall was in the square by the jetty, and believe it is the hall used for many years after this as a billiard saloon.

Our church was originally part of the Port Adelaide and Semaphore Circuit. The mother circuit, judged by present standards, was an extensive one. It included the following 13 churches: Port Adelaide, Alberton, Yatala, Rosewater, Royal Park, Semaphore, Glanville, Birkenhead, Largs Bay, Woodville, Elgin, Grange and Henley Beach.

The question that comes to mind is this. Why should Henley Beach have been attached to the Port Adelaide circuit? For there was another circuit which seemed to be naturally linked to Henley Beach, namely the Western Suburban, which consisted of Holder Memorial, Thebarton, Torrensville, Plympton, Brooklyn Park and Fulham.

The answer may be found if we look at the communications. The Port Adelaide circuit was linked by rail, and Henley Beach was a part of that system. Today the rail link has disappeared, Grange being the terminus.

On the other hand, Henley Beach was linked to the Western Suburban Circuit by road, and in 1911 road links were considered inferior to railroad links. Until a few months before our Henley Beach Church was built, transport to Fulham, Brooklyn Park, Torrensville and to the

city along the Henley Beach Road was by horse tram.

By the time our first church was built, the electric trams had displaced the horse trams - but it was probably felt by many that the electric tram was to a certain extent still in the experimental stage and considered not so reliable as the tried and proved steam train. As for motor cars, they were rarer and more hazardous than jet planes are today.

The first Methodist services in Henley Beach were held on January 1st, 1911, in the above-mentioned hall in 'The Square'.

After these services had been running, morning and evening, for just over two months, there occurred probably the most momentous meeting in our short history. A meeting was called for Thursday, March 30th, at Mr. J.P. Orchard's residence to consider the advisability of forming a local trust.

Present were Rev. A.W. Wellington (in the chair), Messrs.

R. Barrett, H.J. Newland, H.A. Smith, Rev. T.P. Willason and J.P. Orchard.

Mr. Barrett reported having purchased a block of land 120 ft. x 150 ft. on Seaview Road for the sum of 370 pounds, and stated that he was willing to transfer this to the trustees at cost price. Mr. Barrett was thanked for his generous offer, which was unanimously accepted.

It was decided that subscription books be procured and a systematic canvass be initiated to raise funds for the purchase of the property.

It is interesting to note the price for the land - 370 pounds. Compared with values today this seems a low figure, but if we remember the conditions of 1911, we may conclude that 370 pounds was a lot of money to pay for the land. This is supported by comparing the estimated cost of building the church which was between 250 and 300 pounds.

On May 22nd, 1911, the Trustees examined plans of the proposed church, and a week later decided to set aside 60 feet of the north side of the land for the church. The walls of the church were to be 15 feet from floor to ceiling; the building itself was to be 37 feet long by 22 feet wide with a sloping floor. The Trustees decided that the building should be well back from the roadway, and it was agreed that it should be kept back at least 70 feet from the road.

On the 15th July, 1911, the Trustees met to reconsider the actual site of the new church. The Trustees eventually agreed that the church should be built near to the Seaview Road frontage, and at the following meeting it was decided that the front entrance porch should be about 20 feet back from Seaview Road.

It seems probable that one reason for this move was to secure a reasonably level area on which to build. The land dipped fairly sharply down from the front and the labour of levelling the back section of the block would have been considerable.

The date of laying the foundation stones of the church was fixed for Saturday afternoon, December 16th, 1911. The Sunday School children laid one stone. The others were laid by Mr. W. Winwood, Mr. E. Hender and Mr. R. Wilson.

Much of the credit for the building of the church went to Mr. R. Barrett. It will be noted that the whole of the business proceeded with great energy. Sunday services had first started on January 1st, 1911. The land was bought, plans for a new church were discussed and approved and the foundation stones laid by December 16th, 1911. All this was accomplished in less than 12 months.

The problem of paying for the newly built church continued. Lantern lectures were a frequent source of extra revenue, the charge for admission being sixpence.

The Trustees had hopes that the vacant block of land next to the church would be a source of revenue and, from time to time, the possibility of letting this land was discussed.

Anyone knowing Henley Beach as it is today would possibly find the following account in the minutes of the Trustee Meeting of November 13 rather puzzling:

Brother Bull drew attention to the inconvenience caused by trains arriving too late for Sunday Services.

This was puzzling. It seemed unlikely that there would be many people using the train when the terminus was at Main Street, leaving a walk of about 10 minutes to reach the Church.

Mr. L. Tomlinson solved the puzzle. He wrote to Mr. Allan: 'In 1909 a Branch Line was laid down from Main Street to the Adelaide Road running along Military Road.'

Here clearly was the answer. People living from the area around Marlborough Street to Main Street or thereabouts could catch a train which took them right to the back door of the church.

This information explained another problem - why our Henley Beach Methodist Church was not built nearer to the centre of the town - somewhere in the vicinity of the jetty, instead of on the outskirts, as it then was. The railway line travelling so far south as the Adelaide Road (Henley Beach Road) provided one good reason for the choice of the present site. The

line, stated Mr. Tomlinson, was used mainly to freight wood to the wood yard, situated where the Shell Service Station now stands.

The line was pulled up in December 1934, as the wood yard had closed down.

From the outset the church was used for the Sunday School and it was not long before the need for a separate building for the Kindergarten arose. In June 1913, the Church Trust decided to raise funds for such a building. Lectures, concerts, circular letters asking for subscriptions and a particularly successful Fair supplied the required money for starting the building.

In January 1914, Mr. Barrett was authorised to submit plans and estimates for the proposed Kindergarten Room. The plans provided for an extension of the church by building a room at the back of the church connected with the church by two doors. In short, the extra room became the vestry of the church, and later when the Kindergarten moved elsewhere became generally known as the Choir Vestry.

A very important addition to the original buildings was the hall, which was opened on September 10, 1927.

Long before this, at a meeting in June 1920, the Trust, which wanted to sell the land adjacent to the church building, decided to ask 8 pounds per foot as the selling price. Fortunately, the land did not find a ready buyer, and in September of that year a newly formed tennis club applied for permission to place a court on the land. The Trustees called a special meeting, which decided to withdraw the land from sale. Thus was the land saved for the tennis club - and for the new church, now called the Wesley Uniting Church.

Noel Newcombe

# WITOINGA - SWAMP TO CITY HISTORY OF HENLEY AND GRANGE

A recent gift to our society was a folder bearing the above title. This was donated by Mrs. J. Carruthers, daughter of the author, the late Mr. L. Dalziel, who died just over two years ago.

Mr. Dalziel, B.A., L.Th., M.A.C.E., was a man of many skills. At first he worked in fields requiring hand skills - as a carpenter, engineer and mechanic. Then he became a minister of the Congregational Church, and served as a Padre during World War II. For the last twenty-five years before his retirement, he worked for the Public Examinations Board, latterly as Secretary. His signature on documents was familiar to those who worked in schools at that time.

Mr. Dalziel has set an example to other residents of this district, especially History Society members, by putting down on paper, information on local history which came his way, and actively researching from books and by overseas correspondence. He has made very good use of the material (freely available) from the Archives of South Australia, now elegantly housed in the basement of the Public Library.

Mr. Dalziel had planned to write a history of the district from the beginning, to recent times. Before he died, he had completed three topics - the times before white settlement, the story of Mr. John White, who went quietly and steadily about his work as a builder, while also carving out a productive and prosperous estate, and lastly, the story of Abraham Hopkins Davis, who was, while setting up his own excellent property, a force in both local and central politics.

The folder contains, in neat pencil handwriting, notes on his researches, and several preliminary versions of the three topics.

There is also a series of letters (and copies) to and from Scotland and England, as well as a carefully researched paper on the Tam O Shanter, for the Port Adelaide Nautical Museum.

Here is part of the final version of the first topic. The writing is quite poetical in its descriptions, and the use of the Kaurna names for local areas.

"The First People called themselves the Kaurna. They knew they were the children of Monana, who, long ago in the Alcheringa, 'the Dream Time', had climbed up into the sky from his home in Pindinga (Kangaroo Island). The country where they lived was pleasant enough, especially the place where they hunted, the place around Adelaide which they called Tandanya, 'the home of the big kangaroo'. Here by the river was one of their favourite camping places, Tambawodli, 'the camp on the plain'. To the west, the water of the western sea, called Wongayerlo, flowed past the 'place of the nose' - Moodlunga. This peninsula was separated by a sea creek from Yertabulta, 'the place of slumber' (now the Port Adelaide district) where the birds flew each night to sleep.

There were many richly beautiful places in Tandanya. Mikawoma, 'the plain', where Kilkenny now stands, was the home of the emu and the wild turkey, and in the plentifully distributed trees the kookaburras laughed as the parrots swore at the magpies. Everywhere were the wapara and other types of native pigeon. In Witoinga, 'the reedy place', at the head of the sea creek where the river of Tandanya lost itself in the reeds and the lagoons, and in Kertaweeta, 'the scrub with reeds' (Black Forest), lived the swamp parrot whose eggs were so good to eat. yielded an endless supply of shellfish, and many a time the Kaurna camped on Moodlunga to cook them in their campfires and have a Bora feast. Wongayerlo had many fish, too, especially in the sea creek and south of Witoinga near Patawalonga, 'the place of the gum tree scrub', where there were plenty of takaringa (mullet) and yerdli (spotted whiting). It supplied them with food. It even supplied them with weapons from Karawinta, 'the place of the red gum spears', which was near where Hindmarsh now stands. ....

For thousands of years, the Kaurna roamed this rich unchanging land. Every year the dikeri (grass) grew green and fresh to feed the Kangaroo, and every year at Tinnakgialpa, 'the time when the ground burns the feet', the grasses grew yellow. Then, always the fire came to eat the grass to make room for Erlipinna, 'the grass seeds', to grow again. Every night 'the emu of the Southern Cross', Goondooloo, lit a campfire in the sky beside Wadliparri, 'the river in the sky' (the Milky Way), so that the Kaurna coull'd always find their way to the home of their spirit ancestors.

But the land was changed. After the First People came a second people, the white ones. Since their coming, scarcely more in time than a twinkle in the eyes of Goondooloo, all Tandanya has been changed. All the Kaurna, all their kangaroos, all the trees and birds, most of the fish and even the places are gone. No more is the water fresh and clear

in the drinking place. Even Wongayerlo has grown so hungry that he has begun to eat the sands of the beaches. It is with this change that this history is concerned. In particular it is concerned with the people and the change in Witoinga near Moodlunga: the people and the change which destroyed the First People and made the Kaurna less than a memory.

Moodlunga, the place of the nose, now bears, as LeFevre Peninsula, the name of Sir John George Shaw-LeFevre in recognition of the services he rendered to the South Australian Association. ..... never-the-less, the folk name is still the more appropriate. The First People, being true Antipodeans, navigated by the Southern Cross. Consequently, unlike the newcomers who navigated by the Pole Star, they were in the habit of viewing their country from the north to the south. When thus viewed on a map, the striking likeness of the peninsula to a hooked and flattened nose is at once the vindication of the name and a tribute to the powers of observation of the Kaurna.

The newcomers first called Witoinga, the part between old Port Misery and the Patawalonga, 'the Reedbeds', and later 'the City of Henley and Grange'. Judging from the lateness of the emergence of this 'brow' above the 'nose' as a town, let alone a city, it would seem that this part of the country was regarded as figuratively as well as literally 'on the nose' and generally was dismissed as a useless mixture of sandy scrub and boggy, reedy swamp. It was really, then as now, a pleasant place to live, combining the pleasures of non-industrial peace and the pleasantries of a seaside watering place."

Ellen R. Hasenohr.

#### Prehistory

In 1834 the South Australian Literary and Scientific Association was formed in London. This Association selected a library of 117 volumes which was sent to the new Colony. When they arrived - and that is another story - a Mechanics Institute was formed. Like its namesake institutions in the other Colonies, and in England, the Mechanics Institute, for a modest fee, loaned its books to whomsoever cared to pay for such a service. In 1884, a rival body, the South Australian Subscription Library, was formed. However, four years later, in 1848, the two amalgamated, thenceforward being called the South Australian Library and Mechanics Institute.

The Parliament, in 1856, passed an Act which set up the South Australian Institute. This Act included a special invitation to the South Australian Library and Mechanics Institute to allow itself to be taken over by the Institute so formed, which it did in 1859. In 1884, by another Act of Parliament, the functions of the South Australian Institute came into the general ambit of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery. Thus the P.L., M. & A.G. assumed responsibility for the many Institute Libraries that had been set up in the Colony, and for those that were to be established in years that followed. Among the latter was the small Institute Library at The Grange.

#### Foundation

At the turn of the century The Grange, which took its name from the home of the late Captain Charles Sturt, was alive and aware of its identity. There was a railway, which went as far as Henley Beach, a jetty, a school, churches, The Marines, one or two shops, and a cluster of houses. Most of the land about was devoted to dairy farming and market gardening. The town was part of the Woodville Council area, but there were moves afoot to break away. Minutes of the Woodville Council for Monday, April 20th, 1900, record:

Cr. Wyld forwarded a letter from A.W. Ralph, Henley Beach, which he had received, calling a meeting there to consider the advisability of forming Henley Beach and Grange into a corporation, and asking for his report. Received and clerk to prepare receipts and expenditure for the last two years. (1)

Residents of The Grange seemed determined not to be left behind in the matter of libraries; in February, 1901, a small library of 90 volumes began operating near the corner of Beach Street and Military Road. The Hon. Secretary was Mr. E.T. Bridgland, then a young man in the employ of Messrs. W. & T. Rhodes, ironmongers, of 7 Rundle Street, Adelaide.

It was necessary for a library, once formed, to become affiliated with the Public Library if it wished to become an Institute, and be eligible for Government grants. Mr. Bridgland wrote on April 29th (2), and Robert Kay, General Director, Secretary, and Treasurer at the P.L., M. & A.G., replied on the following day in these terms:

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 29th inst., I forward under separate cover a form containing Memoranda and Instructions relative to the affiliation of Suburban &c. Institutes to the Public Library, which with the papers accompanying it will, I think, give all the information you require.

Please note that you must send me two copies of the rules on the blue form when you forward them for approval.

Should you desire any further information, I shall be pleased at any time to advise you.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours truly,
Robt. Kay
General Director, Secretary, & Treasurer.

P.S. To avoid any mistakes I would remind you that you must send me

1 copy of B 2 copies of D 1 copy of E 1 copy of F

properly filled up and signed. (3)

ž.

In spite of the clarity of these instructions, Mr. Bridgland failed to complete Rule 14 as required, and Mr. Kay wrote to him anent this matter in a quick handwritten note. (4) Also, Mr. Bridgland had not written a formal letter requesting affiliation, as required, and he failed with the Application for Special Grant. On May 16th, Mr. Kay had a letter sent to him, in terms as follows:

Sir.

I have to acknowledge receipt of the Rules of the Grange Institute, and other papers which you forwarded to me on the 15th inst. The Rules have been considered by the Institutes Committee, who directed me to forward them to the Hon. the Minister of Education and Agriculture for approval by His Excellency the Governor, and gazetting.

I have however to point out that you haven't sent me a letter formally applying for the affiliation of the Grange Institute, without which the affiliation cannot be considered; in the Paper of Memoranda and Instructions which I sent you some time ago, you will find it stated that such a letter must be sent.

I send back herewith the Application for a Special Grant, which you returned to me just as you got it, without any amount of subscriptions received from members filled in, and without any signatures. I can't understand why you did this, you must have known that in its present state it is quite useless. Of course, if your Committee don't wish to apply for any Special Grant they will not send in the application, but if they do send it in, it must be properly filled up and signed.

Waiting your reply,
I remain, Dear Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Robt. Kay.
G. D., S. & T. (5)

E.T. Bridgland responded promptly. He sent a letter of formal request for affiliation on the same day, and another promising to attend to the Application for a Special Grant forthwith, or, at least, as early as possible. (6) The happy result of this was that, in the South Australian Government Gazette, June 20th, 1901, p. 1244, there appeared a notice which stated that "His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to approve the rules of the Grange, Magill, and Wallaroo Mines Institutes."

The Rules were on the standard printed set of rules provided for all Institutes, with such variations as the Committee had deemed appropriate. Subscriptions were 1/6 per member per quarter, with an entrance fee of one shilling; families were 2/6, and persons under eighteen years of age 1/-. Management of the Institute was vested in a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Honorary Secretary, who were all ex officio members of the Committee, and seven ordinary members, a quorum consisting of not less than five. The date of the A.G.M. was set for February in each year, the date to be advertised by notice in the reading room, and by publication in the Register and the Advertiser. A quorum of ten members was required.

These Rules, together with Mr. Bridgland's formal letter seeking affiliation, Mr. Kay set before the Country and Institutes Committee at its meeting held on July 16th, 1901. This meeting was chaired by Mr. W.J. Sowden, proprietor of the Register, the others present being Mr. T. Burgoyne, M.P., J.P., Dr. R.S. Rogers, William Russell, ship chandler (?), and Lawrence Grayson, J.P., manager of Union Engineering Co. (7) The Committee accepted the documents submitted, and resolved that the Board be recommended to affiliate the Grange Institute. (8) The G.D., S. & T. noted, however, that the Institute had made no application for a Special Grant. (9)

At the same meeting the Librarian, Mr. J.R.G. Adams, reported that he had 500 volumes of withdrawn books, and he recommended that 100 volumes each be sent to the Dublin, Grange, Magill, and Morchard Institutes. (10) This was approved, in the case of Grange, subject to its affiliation. (11)

At a Special Committee meeting, held on July 22nd, Mr. Sowden in the chair, Grange Institute was finally granted affiliation. Four days later the Librarian despatched the 100 books per McCulloch & Co., with a covering letter.(12) Mr. Kay advised, in a letter dated July 31st, of the affiliation of the Institute and, obviously still puzzled, added:

With reference to the Special Grant - we have received no application - was this an oversight, or do you not intend to apply. (13)

Mr. Bridgland replied on August 12th :

Yours of July 31st duly to hand and herewith forward Paper duly filled up and signed.

Re Special Grant, my Committee certainly are desirous of participating in this for the following reasons -

1st Our initial expenses are necessarily heavy and having to pay Hire for Hall, costs of shelves etc., will find it difficult to make expenditure come within our income.

2nd As this is a Seaside Institute and we are desirous of catering for visitors in summer with fairly good reading material we must take advantage of all our opportunities.

If a proper form has to be filled up kindly let bearer have same, and it will receive our prompt attention.

Yours etc., E.T. Bridgland. Hon. Sec. (14)

Even then, Mr. Kay still seems to have been at a loss to understand. He wrote, on August 13th, acknowledging Mr. Bridgland's letter as above, and added, in a hand that has now almost completely faded:

Special Grant
When I wrote you with various papers on April 30th last, I sent
you an Application Form for the Special Grant, but you did not
return it to me, it was marked ... (illegible). If you can't
find it I will send you another copy.

Yours truly, Robt Kay. G.D., S. & T.

P.S. The application for Special Grant should be filled up with the amount of members' subscriptions received up to the time it was sent in.

R. K. (15)

23.

Mr. Bridgland's tardiness in the matter of the Grant seems strange. But, even taking into consideration the financial stringency imposed upon it, the Committee of the Institute might well have considered a subsidy not to be of great benefit. In the first half-yearly return covering the period to the end of June, the Institute's total income is shown as only 4/2. However, by the end of the year, the total income had risen to four pounds 2/9, and the Government paid a Grant (on a pound-for-pound basis) of four pounds 4/1 in June, 1902. (16)

In its first year, with Mr. William Fuller in the Chair, the Committee of the Institute showed considerable enterprise. The stock of books rose to 207, and the 23 families, 2 single members, and 4 visitors borrowed 189 volumes. No periodicals or newspapers were taken at this stage. The library was open only on Monday evenings, from 7 until 10 o'clock.

Two major events occurred during the first year of the Institute's life: Dr. J.H.G. Drummond gave a public lecture on "Dickens," and Mr. William Fuller addressed a meeting on "How plants live." (17) Rule 2 stated:

2. The objects of the Institute shall be the promotion of useful knowledge and rational mental recreation amongst its members, by the following means, as far as may be practicable, viz.:- The establishment of a library and reading-room, lectures, conversations, classes, etc.

This followed the tradition of the Mechanics Institutes, which were first set up in order to provide a means whereby the working classes might improve themselves; it was hoped that they would prove an acceptable alternative to the swilling-places and the gin-shops that took so much money from the lower classes and caused untold misery. About 50 people gathered to hear the addresses alluded to above. Although no record of a loan could be traced, there is little doubt that Mr. Fuller used lantern-slides to illustrate his talk, for the South Australian Institute Catalogue of Dissolving View Slides, which showed what was available, listed slides entitled "Illustrations of exogens," "Illustrations of endogens," "The bean, and section to show its growth," "Group of seed-vessels," etc.

Another slide evening was held in August, the programme on this occasion being somewhat more varied. There were 30 lantern slides of natural phenomena, five on the seasons, "A tale of a Tub - in seven chapters," dissolving view effects of the Tower of London and the Tower on fire, Magician and cauldron and ditto with demons etc. rising out of cauldron, Fairy fountain with water effect, mechanical effects of

beehive with moving bees, etc. The programme wound up with nine comic slipping slides, and GOODNIGHT. No doubt it was a happy occasion.

## A TALE OF A TUB - IN SEVEN CHAPTERS

Chapter I The Tiger asleep. Chapter The tub tips over. II Lunch, The Tiger VI The Tiger under the reconnoitering. tub. The Tiger attacks. They tie a knot in his tail, and so III VII IV The Tiger scales the tub. ends the tale.

Glen Ralph.

#### References

Folio 7, pp. 225 - 226 (2)S.A.A. GRG 19/1 S.A.A. GRG 19/12a, Vol. 12, p. 783 S.A.A. GRG 19/12a, Vol. 12, p. 800 S.A.A. GRG 19/12a, Vol. 12, p. 801 (3) (4)(5) (6)S.A.A. GRG 19/1 S.A.A. GRG 19/356, Vol. 3, p. 91 S.A.A. GRG 19/356, Vol. 2, p. 94 (7)(8) (9) Ibid (10)S.A.A. GRG 19/275 S.A.A. GRG 19/356, Vol. 2, p. 96 (11)S.A.A. GRG 19/12a, Vol. 12, p. 850 S.A.A. GRG 19/12a, Vol. 12, p. 860 S.A.A. GRG 19/1 (12)(13)(14)S.A.A. GRG 19/12a, Vol. 12, p. 883 (15)(16)S.A.A. GRG 19/1 (17)Ibid

# THE FIRST YEAR OF THE CORPORATION OF HENLEY AND GRANGE

(The following is an extended summary of the original talk.)

The Municipality of Henley and Grange was proclaimed in the South Australian Government Gazette on 2nd December, 1915, and came into operation on 4th December, 1915.

The first Council appointed by that proclamation was : Mayor - James H. Sinclair.

Councillors representing Grange Ward - Norwood W. Opie, Watson Jeanes.

Councillors representing Kirkcaldy Ward - Wallace O. Gale,
Charles Rogers.

Councillors representing Henley Ward - William Jory, George S. Wright.

Councillors representing South Henley Ward - Frank H. Menkens,

William F. Harrison.

And the appointed auditors were: Herbert E. Annells, George E. Kreuzler.

The proclaimed assessed annual value of the property in the new municipality was 23,833 pounds.

The former value of the property severed from the District Council of West Torrens was 14,229 pounds, and, from the District Council of Woodville, 7,259 pounds - so that the assessed value of the property of the new municipality was immediately appreciated by 2,345 pounds.

The geographical locations of the wards were:

Grange Ward - Northern boundary to Grange Road.

Kirkcaldy Ward - Grange Road to North Street.

Henley Ward - North Street to Henley Beach Road.

South Henley Ward - Henley Beach Road to southern boundary.

The following are some of the points of interest taken from the minutes of the Council in the first year, in chronological order.

4th December, 1915 (Saturday.) First Council Meeting.

Mr. L.N. Whibley was engaged as the first Town Clerk, pending the engagement of a permanent officer, at a salary of 200 pounds per annum.

The first Council committees were appointed.

Finance committee - Councillors Wright, Jeanes, Harrison and Gale. Works committee - Councillors Jory, Rogers, Menkens and Opie.

The first item of business from residents of the Municipality: A letter from Mr. S.P. Griggs, written on behalf of cafe proprietors of Henley Beach, requesting that beach sites to be used for the sale of refreshments, fruit, confectionery etc. be not offered for public sale. The correspondent promised to recompense the Corporation for any loss sustained.

The decision: That, in the best interests of all concerned, the sites be offered by public auction.

Councillors Opie and Jory were charged with the responsibility of submitting designs for the Corporation seal.

A letter was received from the State War Council in relation to the current recruiting campaign.

The Council decided to instal a telephone.

The Council decided to re-open the Public Bathing Houses. (Apparently they had been closed by the District Council of Woodville some time previously.)

It was also decided to ratify the existing scavenging arrangements i.e. garbage collection.

11th December, 1915 (Saturday.) Second Council Meeting.

First funds received - 150 pounds from the District Council of Woodville - the amount due to the Henley and Grange Council for rates already received.

The first garbage contractor, Mr. G. Sansome, wrote, offering to collect the garbage from Grange and Henley Beach for 8 pounds 4 shillings per month, and to collect the garbage from Henley South for 1 pound per week. In reply, the Council accepted the price tendered for Grange and Henley Beach, but offered only 15 shillings per week for Henley South.

Mr. A.L. Crispe, auctioneer, of Grange, offered to sell the beach sites for Council without fee.

Council employed its first worker - Mr. Pape was employed with horse and dray.

Council also employed its first office girl - Miss Barry, for I pound per week.

It was decided to continue to employ  $\operatorname{Mr.}$  Noble to light the lamps.

The first Health and Building Committee was appointed - Councillors Jeanes, Jory, Menkens, and Opie.

23rd December, 1915. Fourth Meeting.

Council received 34 applications for the position of Town Clerk.

At the next meeting, on 30th December, Mr. H.N. Walkley was appointed Town Clerk.

And Council lodged a complaint with the P.M.G's Department re the cost of trunk line telephone calls to the city!

6th January, 1916. The Council made its first contact with the State Government. A letter was forwarded to the Premier of the day asking that the Commissioner of Railways be moved to lodge a caveat against the issue of the balance of title certificate in regards to the Henley Reserve.

On 7th March, 1916, Council dealt with the problem of stray cattle on roads, and called for a report on levels in Seaview Road.

21st March, 1916. The Town Clerk resigned, and Mr. Mills was appointed in his stead, at a salary of 200 pounds per annum.

29th March, 1916. Council prepared its first assessment.

4th April, 1916. Workmen were given a rise to 9 shillings per day, for an 8 hour day.

18th April, 1916. Council purchased a roller for 75 pounds. This is the first record of plant purchase.

7th August, 1916. It was resolved that the main road from Henley Beach to Adelaide be advertised as dangerous to traffic, and that a warning notice be fixed at each end of the dangerous part of the road.

14th August, 1916. Council adopted its first assessment.

'That the assessment as placed on the table by the Town Clerk for the year ending 30/11/16 be allowed by this Council, and the Court of Appeal fixed for Tuesday August 29, 1916, at 7 o'clock p.m.' The first rate was declared.

General rate. One shilling and threepence in the pound.

Sanitary rate. One penny in the pound.

Lighting rate. Twopence in the pound.

29th August, 1916. Court of appeals sat and received 12 appeals. Of the 12, 2 incorrect names were corrected, 4 appeals were dismissed, 4 were upheld, and 2 adjourned to be heard on 4th September.

2nd October, 1916. Council let tender for the construction of Marlborough Street, to Hanrahan and Buddle.

16th October, 1916. A ballot was held to determine which councillors would retire on the first Saturday in December.

To retire - Councillors Wright, Opie, Rogers and Harrison.

Mayor Sinclair was appointed the first Returning Officer.

It was decided to call tenders again for the construction of Marlborough Street.

30th October, 1916. Council put forward its first road closing plan.

13th November, 1916. Mayor Sinclair withdrew from the Council due to a lawful impediment.

David McCarthy

#### CAPTAIN WHITE AS EXPLORER AND TRAVELLER

Just as his father Samuel had done, Captain S.A. White, of Weetunga, Fulham, undertook a great many ornithological expeditions. To study birds and collect specimens thereof, he travelled to all states of Australia, and throughout the length and breadth of his home state of South Australia.

White described many of his trips, both for scientific journals and in series of short articles for one of Adelaide's daily newspapers, the Register. These articles were collected and published by the author in book form.

I hope that extracts from these small books will reveal something of the man himself, and his skills as a writer and naturalist.

In 1914, White led an expedition to the far north west of South Australia.

One of the camps was at a rockhole in mulga scrub between the Musgrave and Everard Ranges.

'Collecting and taking photographs of items of interest took up the day, so, returning to camp, I had an early tea, then went down to the waterhole to watch for any animals that came to drink. Lying down amid a few stunted bushes, about 20 yards from the water, I watched the glorious sunset.

A swish of powerful wing was heard, and a fine Australian bustard flew leisurely by on his way to his feeding ground, and his harsh voice was heard not far off well into the night. A few bats then appeared, and I was greatly interested in their aerial movements as they hawked for nocturnal insects attracted by the water.

The sharp flapping of wings broke the stillness of the evening, and denoted the presence of some of the pigeon tribe, and it was not long before three beautiful crested pigeons were seen moving quickly over the shelving rock in single file down to the water to drink. They were nervous, and at every mouthful put up their heads and listened for the slightest sign of danger. Moving my body, I cracked a twig, and in a moment, with a sharp clapping of wings, the pigeons were gone. The constant fear of wild dogs and cats has made them very wary.'

As the evening advanced, he observed a dingo, listened to night birds and watched rare parrots come to drink.

Then: 'Having become very cold from lying on the ground, I made my way back to the camp, half a mile off in the scrub. When almost thinking I had taken the wrong bearings, the cheering camp fire showed a little north of my course. I was soon warming myself before it, and then started on the specimens.'

Here are some thoughts on conservation, written on the same expedition. He was most concerned to note the effect the spread of foxes was having on ground-nesting birds.

'Perhaps the advance of so-called civilization will bring along in its train as bad an enemy as the fox. We know that the worst of all scourges among our native birds, 'the domestic cat', will be found wherever white man settles, and the man with the gun, who shoots anything that can run or fly, will follow on and form a link in the destructive chain which is doing its best to blot out for ever Australia's wonderful fauna. thankful I should be that I have been privileged to see so much of Australia in the state our Creator placed it, for there will be countless thousands, in time to come, who will pine to get one glimpse of the country's original state, but that will be denied them, for their forefathers are taking every care to blot it out as they march along, not even reserving a piece of country here and there to perpetuate the native fauna and flora. It is a pity, for there will be harsh words said, for a certainty, in time to come, about those of the present day who could have protected their birthright.'

White practised what he preached. He was, for instance, one of the small group of far-sighted men who persuaded the Government to set aside the land for Flinders Chase on Kangaroo Island.

In August 1916, Edgar Waite of the South Australian Museum invited White to join a Museum expedition to the north east of the state.

The following extract shows that White had a most sympathetic consideration for birds, despite the seen necessity to take specimens.

'I had a good many specimens to preserve, and it took me going hard till 2 a.m., when I left off very stiff and cold, having sat in a cramped position since 7.30, and I also had walked over more than 20 miles of sandy country. It can easily be understood that I was not long in my blankets before I was asleep.

Next day took us over more sandy country. Among the low bush through which we were travelling many chats were seen. They were of two species, the tri-coloured chat, and the orange-fronted chat, both most lovely birds; in one the brightest scarlet predominates, and in the other bright orange. Numbers of these glorious little birds were nesting, and their neat little cup-shaped nests, composed of flower stalks, and lined with rootlets, were placed in the low limbs within a few inches of the ground. When the female birds were flushed from the nest, they would imitate a wounded bird most wonderfully, and go fluttering along with broken wing to lure one from the spot.

When forming camp that night, we discovered only too late (because the loads were off the camels) that a small bush in the camping-place contained the nest of a tri-coloured chat, in which were three heavily incubated eggs. The poor little bird and her mate fluttered round uttering mournful cries, but, as night came on, she mustered up courage enough to slip on to her nest, and as the last light died away her mate could be seen sitting near to her in the bush to keep her company. All avoided the bush as much as possible, and in the morning, soon after daylight, the male bird, in his beautiful scarlet livery and white throat, brought food in the shape of grubs to his spouse upon the nest. We moved off soon afterwards, and left the pair in peace.'

Such consideration, incidentally, is echoed in a modern story told me by my brother Frank.

A utility belonging to a party working on the Moomba gas pipe line was left standing a long time, long enough for a pair of zebra finches to build a nest just inside the radiator grill, and hatch the eggs. The driver heard the young birds calling from the nest. When the utility had to be used again, he made sure it was driven only on short trips. In the camp, he always parked it in exactly the same place. And the finches continued to rear their family.

On the Cooper, a misunderstanding between Edgar Waite and the cook led to the loss of valuable specimens. White describes the incident with some humour.

'Both fish and turtles abounded in the creek, but did not seem hungry, for, in spite of enticing baits given them, Mr. Waite did not have any success. The cook went down after dark for a while, and returned with two nice fish. He showed the fish to Mr. Waite, who was delighted with them (as specimens), and expressed his pleasure and thanks to the cook for having captured them. But oh! what a different scene in the morning!

When the genial director of the Adelaide Museum, and great authority upon fish, made enquiries for the finny specimens, to put in the spirit tank, the cook drew attention to the fish in his frying pan, and added that he was about to dish them up for breakfast.'

White loved the outback, and could describe all aspects of it well. Here is a night scene,

'After our evening meal, we spread out our beds upon the clean hard clay-pan, and wrote up our notes for the day. All the members of the party soon turned in, and a deep quietude had settled down over the land. It was one of those still, brilliant nights which so often follow a hot day in the interior. A fiery red sun had gone down behind the sandhills, and the moon rose soon afterwards with a remarkably ruddy countenance. All the western sky was defined with a golden hue, changing to the light yellow of the desert atmosphere, and then faded out to a delicate shade of green. Stars began to appear, and the heavens assumed a deep-blue colour. A small cloud surrounded the moon when she rose, adding a silver halo to her crimson face. Some of the camels were feeding on the crest of the nearest sandhill, and their ungainly forms silhouetted upon a brilliant sky all contributed to a most wonderful picture.'

It's good to know that a local resident wrote like that, and was proud, in one of the booklets I have drawn from this evening, to quote Wordsworth's lines on Nature :

And I have felt

A presence that disturbs me with the joy
Of elevated thoughts, a sense sublime
Of something far more deeply interfused,
Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns,
And the round ocean, and the living air,
And the blue sky, and in the mind of man.
A motion and a spirit that impels
All thinking things, all objects of all thought,
And rolls through all things: Therefore am I still
A lover of the meadows and the woods
And mountains. ....

Edward Hasenohr