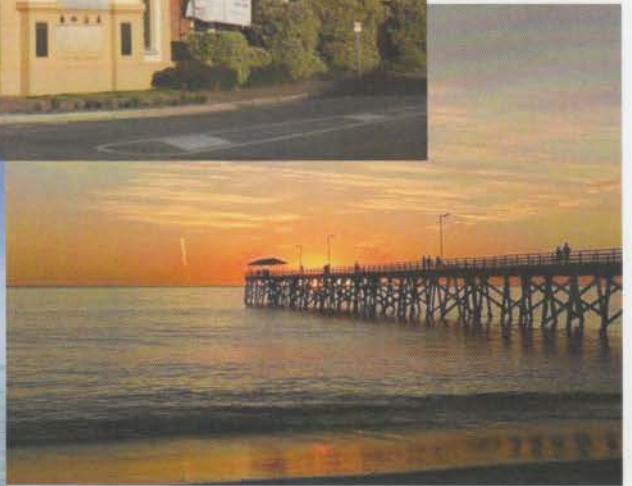




HENLEY & GRANGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY JOURNAL

NUMBER 30

NOVEMBER 2009

COVER ILLUSTRATIONS

Henley Town Hall, 2009.

Henley Jetty.

Grange Jetty, at night.

Soldiers' Memorial

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**HENLEY & GRANGE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JOURNAL**

**NUMBER 30
NOVEMBER 2009**

EDITED BY ROGER ANDRE AND AUDREY WILLOUGHBY

ISSN 0728-5590

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joan Ferguson

Welcome to the 2009 *Journal* written and produced by the members of the Henley and Grange Historical Society. This is our 30th production. The *Journal* relies completely on the input from the Society's members who generously write about their family, other people or items of interest. Without their efforts we would not be able to keep the product at a high standard. I often hear praise for the quality of our productions.

The *Journal* enables us to keep our history alive and certainly the Society would not have the means to make history available to others, if not for the *Journal*.

My congratulations go to those who decided 30 years ago to record our history. They established a high standard which those who came later have endeavoured to uphold. Our thanks go to Audrey Willoughby and Roger André for their work on producing and editing the *Journal*.

I do hope you enjoy our latest edition and if a new reader, that you will seek out the past editions of the *Journal* to read of other stories. These are available at the Henley Library.

2009 has been another busy year for the Society with a decision to update the cataloguing of the photographs. We have received a number of new photos and are always looking for more. Any event, occasion, change or house photo we would like to receive. We will copy the photo if you do not want to give it to us.

At present we are consolidating a number of journal articles into a new production, yet to be named, for sale hopefully by the end of 2009 at a price of approximately \$20. We hope that this will give people other than members an insight into our community. The Society thanks the City of Charles Sturt for underwriting the cost of this project. We are very grateful and feel sure they will be pleased with the finished product. This project is for the citizens of our community to foster our history.

The Society held four general meetings this year with excellent speakers. We wish to express our thanks to all concerned. The topics included *The Sea Rescue Squad, the pugholes and brickworks of the Western Suburbs, and Show and tell*. The speakers, notably, Alan Phillips and Greg Drew, were very well received and we thank them. We also had a tour of the upgraded Marine Discovery Centre at Henley Beach.

We changed our meeting place to the training room in the Henley Library this year and this seems to be working well, convenient and comfortable. We welcome visitors and encourage new members. The cost to join is \$10 single member and \$15 for a couple, and each member receives a journal for that cost.

I would like to remember the passing of two members of the Society: Nell Hasenohr, an inaugural member who, along with her husband Ted, was instrumental in organising the first 20 journals and was always a cheerful and interested member. The second was David McCarthy who was President from 1983 to 1986. David always maintained a keen interest in the Society. We express our sympathy to their families.

I would like to thank all members of the Society for their interest and their endeavours in keeping history alive, and especially I would like to thank the Committee who keep the everyday issues under control.

Many thanks go to Linda Sambell as Secretary - her skills are invaluable - and Alan Williams who took over as Treasurer when Bev Fielder stood down after many years as Treasurer. Our finances are in good stead and very well managed. John Harvey, Beverley Fielder, Arthur Jeeves and council representative Jim Fitzpatrick, complete the Committee. If anyone would like to nominate for the committee please do so as we welcome more input.

I hope you enjoy *Journal* 30 and keep doing your best to preserve our local history.

COMMITTEE 2009

President	Mrs Joan Ferguson
Secretary	Mrs Linda Sambell
Treasurer	Mr Allan Williams
Members	Mrs Beverly Fielder
	Mr Arthur Jeeves
	Mr John Harvey OAM
	Mr Jim Fitzpatrick
Council Representative	
Auditor	Mr Don Brooke

FOUNDATION MEMBERS

Six members of our current membership are Foundation Members of the Association which was formed in 1979.

Mr Ted Hasenohr	Mr Glen Ralph
Mr Noel Newcombe	Mrs Mollie Sutherland
Mrs Edna Newcombe	Mrs Audrey Willoughby

MEMBERS

Mr. Roger André	Mrs Yvonne Lanyon
Mr John Andrewartha	Miss Vila Liebich
Mr Ian Asmunsen	Mrs Janet Mansfield
Mrs Freda Bartsch	Mr Richard Mansfield
Mrs Beverly Bills	Mrs Betty March
Mrs Dorothy Bowden	Mr Max March
Mr Russell Bowden	Mrs Alice May
Mr Denis Brien	Mr John McCarthy
Mrs Annabell Caica	Mrs Rosemary McCarthy
Mr Paul Caica	Mr John McPherson
Mrs Betty Cassidy	Mr Ian Miller
Mr Ron Cassidy	Mr Neil Minear
Charles Sturt Museum	Miss Susan Minear
Ms Mignon Clift	Mrs Margaret Mitchell
Ms Christine Degioia	Mr Leo Moroney
Mr Lyle Dewar	Mrs Edna Newcombe
Mrs Marlene Dewar	Mr Noel Newcombe (Life Member)
Mr John Duffy	Mrs Cheryl Parton
Mr Theo Ellenbroek	Mrs Shirley Penhall
Mr David Ellis	Mr Alan Phillips OAM
Mrs Marilyn Ellis	Mrs Patricia Phillips
Mrs Rosemary Fazzalari	Mr Graham Pike
Mr Don Ferguson	Mrs Kerry Pike
Mrs Joan Ferguson	Mrs June Porter
Mrs Beverly Fielder	Mr Glen Ralph
Mrs Christine Fitzpatrick	Mrs Marie-Claire Ralph
Mr Jim Fitzpatrick	Mrs Dianne Rawnsley
Mr Steven Franks	Mr Graham Rawnsley
Mr Barry Fry	Mr Tim Reynolds
Mr Don Fry	Mr Bob Ritch
Mrs Judith Graff	Mrs Sandra Ritch
Mr Peter Graff	Ms Lynette Robertson
Mr Robert Grant	Mrs Jo-Ann Rowe
Mr John Harvey OAM	Mrs Linda Sambell
Mrs Margaret Harvey	Mr Leslie Schwimmer
Mrs Nell Hasenohr	Ms Anne Strangway
Mr Ted Hasenohr (Life Member)	Mrs June Sturm
Mr Clive Hill	Mrs Mollie Sutherland
Mr Damian Hill	Mrs Anne Talbot
Mrs Shirley Hill	Mrs Meryl Thompson
Mr Clifford Humphreys	Mr Rodney Thompson
Mr James Hurst	Miss Joyce Walkley
Mr Arthur Jeeves	Mr Darrel Webb
Mrs June Jeeves	Mr Dean Whiteford
Mr Tom Jennings RVM	Mrs Janet Whiteford
Mr Gordon Johns	Mr Allan Williams
Mr Shane Johns	Mrs Ann Williams
Mrs Doris Kelly	Mr Peter Willis
Mr Rod Lange	Mrs Audrey Willoughby
Mrs Kathleen Langman	Mr John Worrall
Mr Bob Lanyon	Mr Peter Wyld RFD

OFFICE HOLDERS

President	Ted Hasenohr	1980 - 1982
	David McCarthy	1983 - 1986
	Edna Dunning	1987 - 1989
	Noel Newcombe	1990 - 1997
	Irene McDade	1998 - 2001
	Joan Ferguson	2002 - 2009
Vice President	David McCarthy	1980 - 1982
	Noel Newcombe	1983 - 1989
	George Willoughby	1990 - 1995
	(none elected)	1996
	Joan Ferguson	1997 - 2001
	(none elected)	2002 -
Secretary	Betty Edwards	1980 - 1981
	Audrey Willoughby	1982
	Cynthia Dobson	1983 - 1984
	Edna Newcombe	1985 - 1988
	Edna Mavis Smith	1989
	Edna Newcombe	1990 - 1992
	Kate Barrett	1993 - 1994
	Glen Ralph	1995 - 1996
	Martin Darsow	1997 - 2001
	Theo Ellenbroek	2002 - 2004
	Linda Sambell	2004 -
		(from March)
Treasurer	Helen Hanrahan	1980 - 1987
	Beverly Fielder	1988 - 2008
	Allan Williams	2009 -

ANNIVERSARY EDITION

Journal No 30 has been produced as a special colour edition to acknowledge the large number of people who have contributed to this publication in so many ways over the past thirty years.

In *Journal* No 20, November 1999, in appreciation of Ted Hasenohr’s contribution to our Society, George Willoughby and Peter Wyld wrote the following

At a meeting at the Town Hall, on 18 September, 1979, our Society was formed and officers elected. Ted Hasenohr, then Headmaster of Henley High School, attended the meeting and agreed to become the Society’s first President. He also agreed to be editor of a proposed society publication. In April 1980, Ted produced a 16 page, first journal of the society. It set a style and standard which has been maintained for successive issues, no mean feat in these days of rapid change.

Our Society has been fortunate to have as its journal editor a person with Ted’s credentials. An historical journal editor must give careful attention to historical correctness. Editing of personal memoirs involves correcting bias and removing unintentional libels. The printed journal will last for years. An editor wants to leave a printed record that future scholars can trust as being accurate and reliable. Ted has succeeded in these tasks.

Ted’s wife, Nell, who sadly passed away this year, was also a foundation member of the Society, and gave valued assistance to Ted:

Ted and Nell have always worked as a team on the production of the various publications appearing under Ted’s name. For this reason, it is difficult to separate or quantify Nell’s contribution. The Society is grateful for her contribution over so many years.

From the year 2000, the following Society members have been editors of the *Journal*, which has continued to record many interesting and informative articles of Henley and Grange history. We thank them for the time and expertise they have given us.

No 21	2000	Rob McDade and Irene McDade
No 22	2001	Rob McDade
No 23	2002	Journal Committee: Glen Ralph, Peter Wyld, George and Audrey Willoughby
No 24	2003	Glen Ralph

No 25	2004	Journal Committee: Peter Wyld, George and Audrey Willoughby
No 26	2005	George and Audrey Willoughby
No 27	2006	Roger André and Audrey Willoughby
No 28	2007	Roger André and Audrey Willoughby
No 29	2008	Roger André and Audrey Willoughby
No 30	2009	Roger André and Audrey Willoughby

The contents of our thirty journals contain articles from present members, past members, local residents, people from local clubs and organisations, all written to record the history and heritage of Henley and Grange. Many members submit articles each year and their continued contributions are welcomed for ongoing publication of the *Journal*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to Society members Ron Cassidy, Joan Ferguson, John Harvey OAM, Arthur Jeeves and Richard Mansfield who contributed well-researched articles and photographs for this edition of the *Journal*. In addition, Anthony Aldous provided us with an informative description of the Scout Archives, which the Society visited in 2007, while Neville Fielder willingly provided us with the text of his popular 2008 talk to the Society on the history of the Henley Surf Life Saving Club. Tom Jennings RVM generously gave of his time and lent us the HSLC archival photographs to illustrate Neville's text for publication, and Patrick Hedges' contribution in supplying cover photographs is also much appreciated. Not least, we sincerely acknowledge the many hours of proof reading put in by John and Margaret Harvey year after year.

ROGER ANDRE & AUDREY WILLOUGHBY

THE HENLEY SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB: **THE BEGINNING**

**A talk given to the Henley and Grange Historical Society
on 20 June 2008
by Neville Fielder**

Councillors, parents and other concerned members of the community of Henley & Grange gathered in the Henley Town Hall on 1 October 1925 to discuss the need for a lifesaving club to watch over those who ventured into the waters in the proximity of the very popular Henley Square and Henley Jetty precinct. The meeting was chaired by Councillor H. Hannam and speakers included Councillor Daniel Dineen who moved for the formation of the Henley Life Saving Club.

This was followed by the election of officers, resulting in:

President	H. Hannam
Captain, Chief Instructor	Dan Dineen
Secretary	H.E. Harris
Treasurer	W. Staker

The Club Colors were to be royal blue and white and the Club Logo was H within a circle. We still use those colors and logo today.

The initial training of the members of the newly-formed Club was conducted in the Henley Town Hall.

An abandoned council-owned concrete boatshed, constructed at beach level, was offered to the Club as their first clubhouse or 'Clubshed' as it was known in the early days. The excitement of the approach of the Club's first summer saw a working bee of members who managed to remove several tons of sand and seaweed from within the building and with the assistance of such stalwarts on Council as Messrs Hannam and Yeomans, the 'shed' became the home of the Club members.

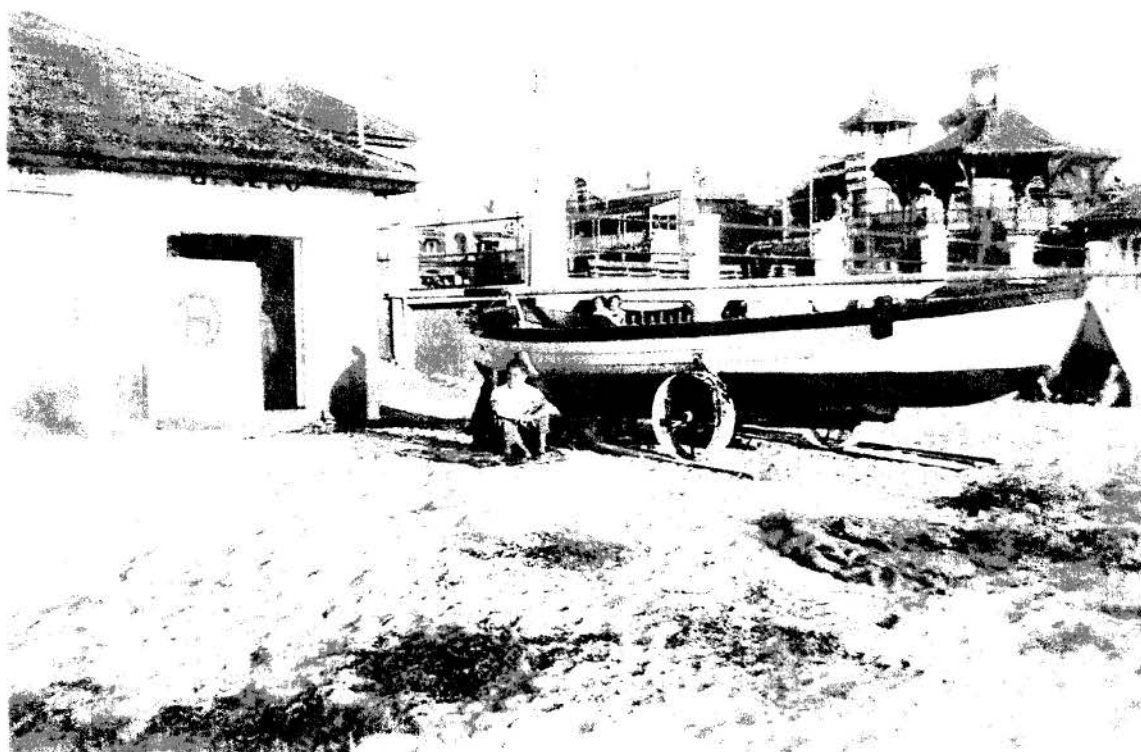
The record of membership in the initial patrol logbook indicates about 50 young men attended instructional meetings and performed patrol duties in that first year.

Some of the prominent names were: Jim Fischer, Cedric Hele, Wally Threadgold, Alan Leonard, Bob Lucy, Frank Stapleton, Ron Drew and Jack Manning.

Subscriptions at that time were:

Adults	5 shillings
Juniors (Under 14)	2 shillings and 6 pence
Lady members, both adult and junior	2 shillings and 6 pence
Honorary members	10 shillings

Interest in the promotion of the Club was evidenced by a donation of two tins of biscuits by Menz & Co. for trophies at the end of the season.



First clubhouse donated by Council 1925, with Boat Captain Glen Cleal sitting alongside the *A.W. Jolly* on its purpose-built trailer made by Jim Fischer. Photo 1946.

(Courtesy Henley Surf Life Saving Club)

Affiliation

At that time the Royal Life Saving Society had the authority to control and assist in management of all clubs on enclosed waters such as rivers, lakes and in the instance of Henley Beach, because the Gulf St Vincent was deemed to be 'enclosed waters', our newly-formed Club came under their supervision. But our first Club captain, the key driver, Dan Dineen, had a great desire to see the Club as part of that well-established body known as the Surf Bathers Association on the east coast. The minutes of the inaugural meeting noted 'that the affiliation be left to the incoming committee' and further on, in respect to the Rules of the Club, 'That this Club includes in its Rules, the Rules as shown on page 109 of the Book of Rules in the N.S.W. Surf Clubs'. So, from that early stage, our founders preferred to be a part of what was to become the Surf Life Saving movement, rather than the Royal Life Saving Society.

A fierce storm that raged out of a placid, calm Saturday afternoon in 1932, with all yachts becalmed between Brighton and Largs Bay, saw the event known as the *Sunny South* disaster at Glenelg in which four out of the five crewmen of that yacht perished. This event also saw deeds of action and bravery by members of the Henley Life Saving Club when rescuing the crew of the *John Nimmo* off the end of the Henley Jetty. Such were the efforts of the members on that day, that Dan Dineen graphically reported the incident to the Surf Association in Sydney and on examination by their Meritorious Awards Committee, our Vice Captain, 'Bill' Howe, was awarded the Surf Association Bronze Medal for Bravery, and both Cedric Hele and Malcolm Clode received commendations from the Royal Humane Society.

The 'Bridge' lookout tower

A Special Meeting was called on 29 January 1926 to discuss a 'bridge over the Henley Jetty for the purpose of providing a lookout for members on patrol to observe swimmers' activities and as a shark watch.' The result of the meeting was that the Chief Engineer of the Harbors Board engaged F. Lill & Son of Grange to build the 'bridge' for the sum of £90.

An electric siren was fitted to the tower to warn swimmers of the presence of a shark.

The 'Observation Bridge' or tower, as it became known, remained a valuable patrol facility until 1991 when, whilst working on replacing piles to the Jetty, it was removed without any communication with the Club. Efforts to have the bridge replaced fell on deaf ears.

The Surf Bronze

The tests of ability and the training for awards of the Royal Life Saving Society did not cover the use of the line and reel until 1932. That being the latest piece of rescue equipment as used by the lifesavers in the eastern states, our Club obtained our first reel and won another one, the 'Silver Reel' donated for competition by News Limited that same year.



**Rescue & Resuscitation Team 1932-33 – in front of the old Pier Hotel, Glenelg:
Jim Fischer, Malcolm Clode, Rex Presgrave, Fred Hill, Alan Hallett, Jack Manning
(Courtesy Henley Surf Life Saving Club)**

A member of the Club, Alan Bannister, found time whilst holidaying in Sydney to join a Sydney-side club and gained his Bronze Medallion of the Surf Association. He saw the benefits of his new skills and envisaged the use of those methods at home at Henley. He purchased several instruction manuals and, on return to Henley, instructed the enthusiastic members of the Club in the methods used by the Surf Association in New South Wales. He next arranged for an examiner from New South Wales to visit Henley and put 14 of our members through the test in rough conditions at Chiton Rocks on the Easter weekend of 1937. The examiner remarked the 'he had rarely seen such a sea' at an examination on the Sydney beaches. Those 14 members passed the test and were awarded their Surf Association Bronze Medallion.

Our members were now fully-fledged surf lifesavers, and our desire for affiliation with the Surf Association was rekindled.

But no, the 'Royals' cried 'unfair'! They again claimed that the waters of the Gulf St Vincent were in fact 'enclosed waters' per medium of the fact that Kangaroo Island separated coastal waters from 'high seas'.

The Surf Association did not want to get involved in local affairs, with the result that affiliation was denied, but the awards won by the members at Chiton Rocks still stood.

The following year, 1938, was the year of the sesquicentennial (150 year) celebration of the founding of the State of New South Wales. As part of the celebrations, an Inter-dominion and Interstate Championship Life Saving Carnival was held. It had been proposed that all States and New Zealand would be represented.

The Henley Club was invited to attend. A ten-man team was required and the sum of £50 was offered to defray expenses. The team, captained by Cedric Hele, proved themselves able and capable of competing against the best surf swimmers of the day. Cedric Hele's effort in the Belt Race earned him great respect.

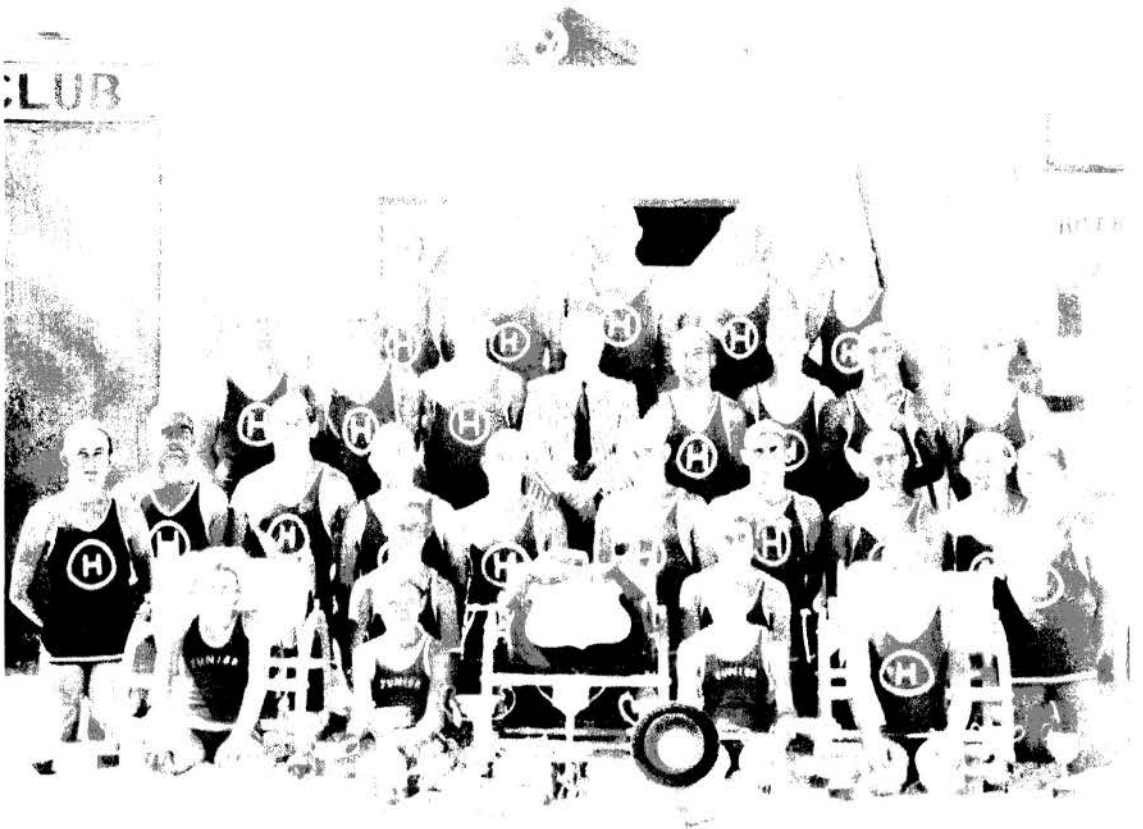
This was a first; a 'Royals' team competing in a Surf Association event had been unheard of.

Management

The management of the Club in the first instance was guided by the founder, Dan Dineen. There were instances of rebellion in some of his decisions. In one instance Dan decreed that smoking was not in the best interests of lifesavers and that any member found smoking would be expelled. Wally Threadgold, a foundation member, decried that attitude as detrimental to the livelihood of his father as a tobacconist, and resigned from the Club.

A well-known member of Council, Mr C.C. Chambers, presided over the Club for eight years and handed over the reins to Mr. F. Bowden in 1936.

The Club's uniform of royal blue full-length bathers with white piping and the circle H embroidered on the chest easily identified members on patrol, as may be seen portrayed in the group photo of 1935 The Club blazer, as worn by President Bowden, was of royal blue and white stripes.



**Henley Lifesaving Club, Season 1935-36
Winners News Silver Reel and Dudley Angas Shield
(Courtesy Henley Surf Life Saving Club)**

Prominent personnel amongst the members who have contributed greatly to ensuring that the Club remained the premier club on the coast were

Cedric Hele, Club Captain for many years, and Champion Swimmer
 Jimmy Fischer, Club Captain and many years on Committee, and the local plumber
 Ross McK Strang, Chief Instructor
 Fred Hill, Captain, Rescue and Resuscitation Coach, a natural leader
 Gordon Johns, Treasurer and Secretary
 'Chook' Fielder, Secretary
 Mervyn Butterfield, Captain, Coach - engineer
 R.J. McDonough, for many years as President

Club housing

From the first Club-shed as donated by Council, there has constantly been a shortage of accommodation for the members and equipment. There was little space for personal lockers. Junior members mixed in with seniors until a further concession from Council saw the erection of a 'Junior Shed' at street level at the rear of the 'Senior Shed'. This 'Junior' shed also housed the Club's first surfboat in 1937.

Being at beach level, each spring saw a working bee to empty the club floor of sand and seaweed which, despite all endeavours that were made to stop the high winter tides and stormy seas, still managed to accumulate.

With Chook Fielder at the helm as Secretary, his main aim was to improve the conditions of the Club-shed for the members. Improvements had to be made. Improvements required expenditure, and money did not grow on trees. Chook's energy and contacts enabled the Club to run a series of jazz concerts in the old Tivoli Theatre in the mid to late '40s, resulting in sufficient cash in hand for the Treasurer, George King, to give the nod to get serious about building a new clubhouse.

A series of meetings with Council and the continuation of fund-raising schemes culminated in an agreement for the clubroom to go ahead. Our first choice was on the northern side of the old amusement platform, knowing that the amusement platform would be a good buffer which had stood the test against many stormy seas, including those which had destroyed the Glenelg Jetty in 1948, but Council decided that the southern side of the amusement platform, very close to our current site, was the preferred position.

Then, in May of 1953, came the one-in-a-hundred-year storm that demolished the entire seafront from South Henley to Grange. All the man-made constructions, including our original Club-shed and the amusement platform, were destroyed, but in the aftermath, the next morning it was seen that the swimming pool had withstood the onslaught and the diving tower still stood proud.

The Club was without any accommodation. With Council assistance, our members erected a Nissen hut on the promenade on the northern side of the jetty.

Commonsense prevailed when Council and our Committee saw the advantage of the protection of the swimming pool as a site for a new clubhouse.

And so it was. With the engineering expertise of Mervyn Butterfield and the willingness of the Club members and local tradesmen, the first section of the new clubhouse was commenced in 1955, and completed in 1956, being officially opened by Mayor Don Newland.

Since that time, with the increase in membership and the addition of further rescue equipment, the Thomas Barnes Memorial Gymnasium, and the Super Sid First Aid Room, required more space and the northern annexe was constructed in 1982 with the assistance of financial support from the State Government. In that instance financial assistance requested from the City of Henley & Grange was not forthcoming.

With the further increase in membership and demands for space, the southern annexe was constructed in 1992 with the financial assistance of a bequest from the late Miss Amy Forward and again by the State Government; again a request to the City of Henley and Grange failed to attract their assistance.



Three phases of the Clubhouse

Single floor hall constructed over the change rooms of the Swimming Pool, 1955

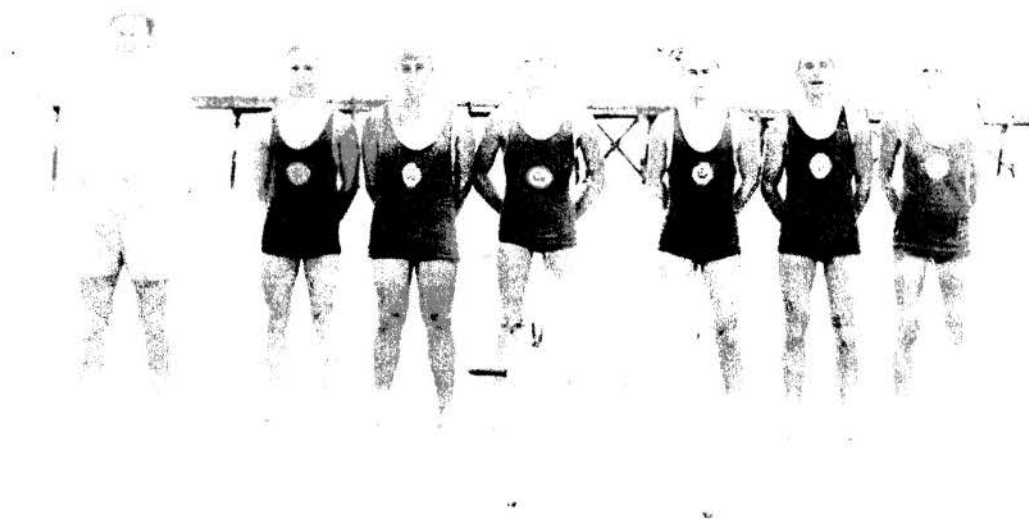
Multiple floored, white coated, boatshed, changerooms, 'Top Room', 1956

Red brick, northern section, boat shed, gymnasium, sundeck Lookout 1982

(Courtesy Henley Surf Life Saving Club)



Henley Surf Life Saving Clubrooms, c.1994.
(Courtesy Henley Surf Life Saving Club)



Lifesavers by Henley Jetty, 1947

**Fred Hill (shorts), David Hemsley, 'Sam' Roberts, Lance Burton, Merv Butterfield, Ken Gubbins and Tom Jennings
(Courtesy Henley Surf Life Saving Club)**

Affiliation

It had always been our desire to be part of the now well-established Surf Life Saving Association of Australia. In the late '40s the 'Royals' control of the five lifesaving clubs namely Henley, Glenelg, Brighton, Seacliff and Port Elliott, had waned to the degree that the depth of competition between the clubs had been reduced to three teams competing in the rescue & resuscitation event, with Henley providing two of those teams. The competitive spirit had all but gone.

There was a need for action.

With that burning desire to become part of the Surf Association, and the knowledge that the 'Royals' were adamant that they had control of enclosed waters, and that they deemed that the waters of the Gulf St Vincent were enclosed waters, Chook Fielder and Mervyn Butterfield set about to prove the alternative. The result was a resounding success for the years of investigation and research. In the finality, the decision of Captain Miller of the Commonwealth Navigation Department declared that the waters of the Gulf St Vincent were not inland waters but open to the ocean and, in fact, three miles offshore - high seas.

Chook and Merv had now jumped the first hurdle. The next hurdle was to convince the National Council of the Surf Life Saving Association, that the Henley Club was proficient and worthy.

On the Easter weekend of 1950 a further 20 members went through rigors in stormy conditions and successfully gained their Surf Bronze Medallion award.

At the National Council meeting in Perth in March 1951, Mervyn Butterfield, armed with a briefcase full of charts and graphs, presented an historically-long case for the admission of the Henley Club. He won the day and Henley was re-affiliated as a Surf Club for 1 October 1952. The success of the Henley Club prompted the other clubs to follow suit.

The next step was to form a state administration.

State Centre

The State Centre of the Surf Life Saving Association was the direct line of communication between the States and National Council. To this end a minimum number of affiliated clubs was required.

For new clubs to be formed, the requirement of qualified personnel was a prerequisite. The Henley Club provided such personnel and formed new clubs at Grange, West Beach, Semaphore and Moana.

This action by the Henley Club to ensure that the Surf Association got off on a good start, resulted in a draining of our managerial and competitive members.

Representatives of National Council, the Royal Life Saving Society, the Victorian State Centre and the local affiliated clubs attended at a meeting in the Tourist Bureau Theatre on 10 October, 1952 to form the S.A. State Centre of the Surf Life Saving Association. Under the Vice-Presidency of Norm Tucker, with Chook Fielder Secretary and Publicity Officer and Mervyn Butterfield Chief Superintendent and National Council Delegate, the newly-formed State Centre was on its way.

We had proved our ability as lifesavers, as organisers, and now as managers. The next step was to prove to the competing membership of the Surf Association that we were able and capable of hosting the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships.

Our first 'Aussies'

Moana was our selected site for the 'Aussies' for 1961. Armed with aerial images of the area to show the space of beach and vast spaces for parking of vehicles, Chook Fielder and his merry band of assistants from Henley and Moana Clubs enticed Ken Watson, the National Secretary, to visit the site and give his approval.

That National Surf Life Saving event amazed the majority of those interstateers in attendance. The Beach Referee, Bob Brydon, was more than pleased with the conditions and saw the program proceed without delays.

The competitors were taken by surprise when the tide did not change; there was a dodge low tide on that day, and the interstateers just wondered how we had managed such perfect conditions.

Since then, our Club has always been an integral part of the local community; from the early days when locals looked for their entertainment close to home, through to today when we attract members from far afield. Similarly, the beach is more accessible now for those living further afield with public and private transport easily accessible.

The major changes since the early days prior to 1960 really involve rescue techniques and the equipment we use. The reel and line is only used in competition now; in its place we have a buoyant tube that is swum out to a distressed swimmer and Zodiac inflatable power boats or specialised jet skis to assist retrieve patients if necessary.

You will see a larger jet boat on regular patrol along the coast now, supported by the Westpac rescue helicopter and hundreds of surf-lifesavers at the busier beaches along the coast.

We are now trained to use oxygen equipment to aid resuscitation and to assist in patient recovery and the use of defibrillators to correct or recover heart rhythm.

Surf Life Saving Australia is now recognised as the world leader in aquatic safety and sets very high standards for its active members. We undergo a fitness and skills test at the beginning of each summer to ensure we meet those standards. From the public view, our activities might seem to be restricted to weekend and public holiday patrols, but we spend all year in various modes of training and administrative tasks. In winter we are able to upskill in virtually anything that doesn't require water - resuscitation, defibrillation, first aid and leadership training for example. We are now a recognised training authority and can offer certain training to members of the public.

Our Club is now very close to being in a position to demolish our existing building, the core of which is the remains of the 1956 structure.

Council recently approved in its budget funding of around \$900,000 to assist in one third of the cost of a new building. The South Australian Government, through the Emergency Services Fund, will pay for 56% and the Club the remainder. We are a community-based volunteer emergency service and, with limited sources of funding, are most grateful of this State Government assistance. We particularly thank the City of Charles Sturt for its progressive view on community needs.

We believe we will have all loose ends cleared away to enable us to commence the project by October 2008. (Now anticipated late 2009, ed.)

The Club's share of costs may be in the vicinity of \$300,000 - a huge amount for a volunteer group to find. With this in mind we have been fundraising for many years.

In 2007 we created a major fundraising event that grew from a wild idea over a beer to a resounding success that brought in \$40,000. You may have heard of the Henley SLSC Bendigo Bank Big Row. A group of our members rowed an 18 foot surfboat from Stansbury on York Peninsula back to Henley. We set about finding sponsors for the event with a goal of raising \$30,000. We finished with just over \$40,000 and were beside ourselves. We held the event again this year and raised \$44,000.

Being a community organisation, we wanted to involve the Stansbury community this year. We held a water-safety session for the Stansbury Primary School on the day prior to the Row. The children, teachers and parents were delighted and we will do the same for them again next February. (This occurred as planned and will be a feature of the annual Big Row, ed.)

As far as our future is concerned, we will continue to work with the local youth and help them become outstanding young citizens and future leaders.

An interesting point to add there is that one chap who qualified as a surf-lifesaver with us this past summer is 61 years old, so if anyone here is interested in taking the plunge we won't turn you away.

We will continue to change with the times and modify our procedures as time goes on. And Henley will continue to have a very proud link to the past through our Club.

Postscript - women's involvement

When the Henley Life Saving Club was formed in 1925 provision was made for women's membership at a lower subscription. Several women soon gained their Bronze Medallions and Instructor's Certificates and the Carnival for the opening of the Observation Bridge on Henley Jetty in 1926 included a Ladies 100 Yards Championship and a Ladies Neat Dive.

It was not until the mid 1940s, however, that women became eligible to take part in rescue and resuscitation events. Also in the 1940s, a number of women elected to form a separate Henley Women's Life Saving Club.

The 1950s saw women relegated to auxiliary roles when a State Centre of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia was established and the *News* reported 'to the horror of many male observers, women were the first to be axed from the new body'. The Henley Life Saving Club was granted affiliation with the SLSAA from 1 October 1952. In spite of the '50s setback, women continued to contribute significantly to the wellbeing of Henley and other clubs behind the scenes.

Eventually, in 1980, women were accorded the right of admission as full members of all clubs under the jurisdiction of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia. Women quickly took advantage of their equal status, half a dozen female members of the Henley Surf Life Saving Club qualifying for their Resuscitation Certificates in 1981. Amongst subsequent achievements, Sally Trodd was elected the Club's first female Captain in the 1990-91 season, while Siobham Byrne became the Club's - most likely Australia's - first female Boat Captain in 1996. Since then, women's vigorous participation has been taken for granted.



Members of Henley Women's Life Saving Club, 1947.

**L-R Peggy Nuttall, Joyce Burton, Delores Amos, Pam May, Edna Nuttall, Pat Jennings,
Iris Jones and Maxine Morcombe.**

(Courtesy Henley Surf Life Saving Club)

Sources

Bryce Kohler, *First to the buoys: history of the Henley Surf Life Saving Club, 1925-2000*, The Club, Henley Beach, S. Aust., 2000.

Tom Jennings, 'The Henley Surf Life Saving Club', *Henley and Grange Historical Society Journal*, No. 9, 1988.

Henley Surf Life Saving Club archival collection, 1925-2000, c/- Tom Jennings RVM.

MEMORABILIA DISPLAYED AT JUNE MEETING

By Roger André

Our President, Joan Ferguson, was snatching a bit of time to relax before the Society's meeting of 12 June when she was alerted to the sudden illness of our guest speaker. Joan hastily arranged a 'show 'n' tell' session. Members we had time to contact readily came to the party.

Ron Cassidy kicked off with a morse code key dating from World War Two when he served as a Leading Aircraftsman with 44 Radar Wing on Peron Island, where radar operators would phone data through to a telegraph operator to transmit to Fighter Sector in Darwin by morse code. Accordingly, the code key was an indispensable element of defence operations. Ron was on Peron Island (an island so infested with death adders that all personnel had to carry a phial of condy's crystals) in 1943 when a Japanese raiding formation was picked up a hundred miles out. He was also in Radar Wing out of Darwin when a nearby hospital precinct was bombed. Ron went on to serve on North Goulbourn Island, Northern Territory, and on Krankit Island off Madang in New Guinea, one of many radar stations. He became quite proficient in morse code.

Rather than display any particular item, Linda Sambell told us of her *History Week* activities which included a walk of Glenelg with readings of diary excerpts given at regular intervals, a bus tour of Brighton finishing up with a Devonshire tea at Kingston House, a tour of the University of Adelaide's State heritage-listed Mitchell Building, Elder Hall and Bonython Hall with Keith Conlon, and a guided tour of the Gothic-revival St Peter's Cathedral, peering at nineteenth century and twenty first century stained glass amongst other features. As if she wasn't engorged with history, Linda also took in the Society of Friends' Quaker Meeting House, a strikingly simple prefabricated 'Manning House' shipped out to Adelaide in 1840.

Notable amongst several items brought along by Joan Ferguson was a Church of England service book published in 1864 and inscribed 'Given by Miss V.E. Olifent to Joan Potts on 23.8.1956'. Joan Potts, of course, became Joan Ferguson and the little service book, partially covered in ivory, was a beautiful memento of her confirmation. An earlier inscription in the service book reads 'A present to Violet from her Mother on 11.2.1891'. Joan believes Violet Emma Olifent would have been 20 at the time. Her father was a Norwegian who sailed to Australia by yacht. Violet, who never married, died in 1964. She was a good friend of Joan's mother and part of Joan's childhood was spent in her two-storey house in Anthony Street, Largs Bay, which had a flat roof from which one could watch for ships sailing up and down the Gulf. Joan also showed us a stunning cabinet photograph of a youthful Violet Olifent holding a violin.

Joyce Walkley came to light with an exquisite boxed set of mathematical instruments, made, with great precision, by W.H. Harling and bearing the inscription 'Presented to Mr. H.M. Walkley from Hindmarsh Corporation employees 13 January 1916'. H.M. Walkley was Joyce Walkley's father, Hurtle Walkley, who, after serving as Assistant Town Clerk at Hindmarsh, took the position of first Town Clerk of the Corporation of Henley and Grange in 1917. Joyce also brought along letters relating to the war work of prominent local resident, the late Miss Dorothy Marshall, who merits an article in her own right.

Alan Williams' scrapbook, assembled by Alan's mother, Thelma Williams, was filled with invitations, greeting cards, press cuttings and photographs documenting his father's term as Mayor of Woodville from 1961 to 1965. Alan's father, Keith Williams, went on to be closely involved with Susan Marsden in compiling the history of Woodville.

Roger André circulated a worse-for-wear latticed plate, a remnant of a once-elaborate fruit set brought to South Australia aboard the *Princess Louise* in 1849 by maternal ancestors, Louisa and Hermann von Rieben, and lugged up to North West Bend where they settled. A century later, in 1949, much of the set was lost in the Mount Benson homestead fire when in the possession of Max Engelhart, the von Riebens' grandson.

Some 20 members and others turned up for the June meeting, and if they didn't get the talk they expected, they passed an interesting evening nonetheless.



Violet Emma Olifent c.1871-1964
(Courtesy Joan Ferguson)

HENLEY FORESHORE IMPROVEMENTS 1924

By Joan Ferguson

An article appeared in *The Advertiser* on 20 October 1924 detailing the importance to Adelaide of improving the beach as a destination. When the trams travelled to Henley Beach in the early 1900s people came for the day to listen to the band and spend time on the beach. Others stayed at the guest houses and hotels for their holidays. Each January the Henley and Grange Regatta was held with yachting events, produce stalls, sideshows and aquatic events. This article details further changes made to the foreshore to entertain and cater for people's needs.

To quote:

The foreshore apart from containing handsome utility buildings has a wide gravelled walk, tastefully interspersed with rock grottos and fountains, and splendid accommodation is provided for the large crowds which gather in summer months to listen to the splendid Tramways Symphonic Band.

On 20 October 1924, the Governor of South Australia Sir Tom Bridges and Lady Bridges, Mr and Mrs Gaetjens (Mayor and Mayoress of Henley and Grange), Council members, the Speaker of the House of Assembly (Mr McInnes M.P.), the Mayor of Glenelg, Surveyor General (Mr T. Day) and the Town Planner (Mr W. Scott Griffiths) attended the opening of the foreshore improvements.

The work which was carried out under the supervision of the Town Clerk (Mr Yeomans) cost £8500 and consisted of ladies and gentlemens conveniences 70 feet by 35 feet each and a ladies bathing house 80 feet by 35 feet.

The bathing houses were fitted with cubicles and every convenience including freshwater showers and footbaths. In the ladies conveniences was a bath for babies, fitted with heater, one of the first in a public bathing house in any part of the world.

The Mayor, Mr Gaetjens, mentioned in his speech the large sums of money that had been spent at Ramsgate, Margate and Brighton (in England) and other seaside resorts.

This was obviously a template for the council's thinking.

Beneath the promenade on the foreshore were 22 shade arches 22 feet by 10 feet and these were equipped with red and white striped canvas shades for use on hot days.

A lifeboat shed is included, to house a new lifeboat presented by the Mayoress, and adjoining the Amateur Swimming Club's shed.

There was a square 150 feet by 60 feet for merry-go-round and sideshows and a large fountain for horses and dogs to drink from, presented by Mrs Bateman and Miss Saint in honour of their late stepfather (Mr Harry Woodcock).

The Mayor also presented a fountain designed by the Town Clerk.

At this time the children's playground was under construction north of the Henley Jetty. It consisted of 'a scenic railway, giant swings, swinging boats, walking beams, horizontal bars and a large dolls' house'. The cost was about £500.

A Jazz floor was on top of the ladies' bathing house for dancing on summer nights.

The Town Clerk, Mr Yeomans, considered the foreshore improvements among the most up-to-date in existence.

As part of the day's events yacht races were held, and sports events were held on the beach for children.

Mrs Gaetjens presented and launched a new lifeboat built by Mr Weir of Port Adelaide and named *Alvilde* in honour of the daughter of the Governor.

The new clubhouse for the Amateur Swimming Association was declared open by the Mayor who said 'the council appreciated the fact that the members of the club had taught hundreds of children in the district the necessary art of swimming'.

To round off the occasion, many people provided stalls to raise money. These included: fish pond, produce stall, smoke stall, sweet stall, cool drinks, jumble stall and cake stall.

Music, decorations and souvenir programmes were provided to add to the celebrations.

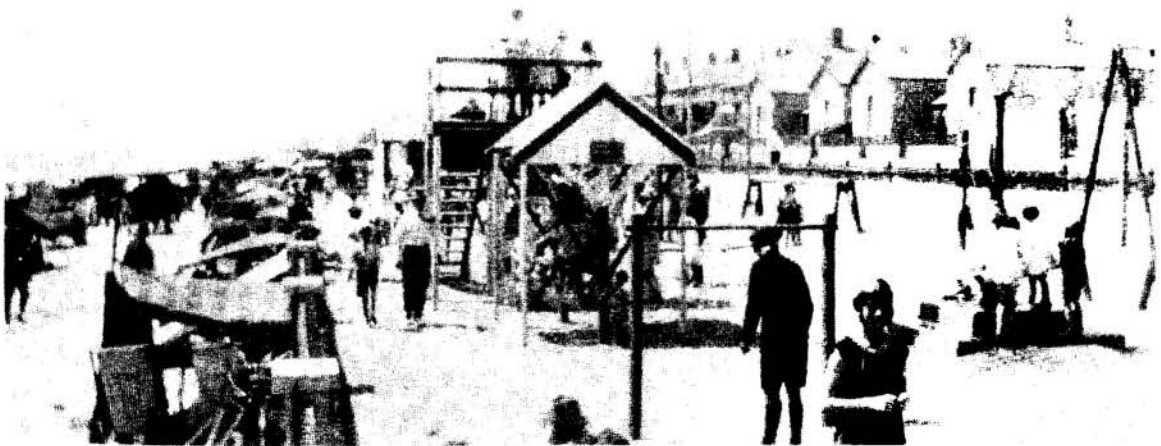
Future plans were to light the improvements by electricity, 'the globes being placed on pedestals of novel design'. This work was 'carried out by Messrs Charles Atkins & Co. And ten of the pedestal lamps were presented by various citizens.'

At a later date it was proposed to move the seats on the jetty out two feet to make more walking space. Two bays were to be constructed off the jetty, one 20 feet by 15 feet, the other 30 feet by 15 feet (shown in photo 1).

The Advertiser made the quote that 'Henley Beach can now boast of having one of the most ornate sea promenades in Australia.'



**Henley foreshore showing the 1924 improvements including merry-go-round,
bathing houses and shade arches, also the later addition
of two bays either side of the jetty.
(Henley & Grange Historical Society)**



**Henley foreshore showing the children's playground
and shades over the arches in use, c.1928.
(Henley & Grange Historical Society)**

THE 1ST GRANGE SCOUT GROUP

By Richard Mansfield

In the *Henley and Grange Historical Society Journal* number 25 of November 2004, John Harvey contributed an article 'Early days of 1st Grange Scout Group'. This article dealt with the period 1931 to 1939. A note at the end of the article points out that the troop began in 1909. As 2009 is the centenary of Scouting in South Australia, it seems useful to recount the origins of this troop which was the eleventh troop formed in this state. In the 80s and 90s the troop often claimed that it was a continuous group from 1909, but this was not so.

Baden-Powell inaugurated Scouting on 24 January 1908 at Birkenhead, England. Despite distance and the communications of the times, there is documented evidence that a Scout patrol had formed in Adelaide as early as July 1908. However Baden-Powell did not write until 18 January 1909 to Sir George Le Hunte KCMG, the Governor of South Australia, asking him to become President of a South Australian Association of Scouts. As the Governor was retiring, action was not taken until September 1909 when, at a meeting in the Town Hall, a council of 14 was appointed. That is why 2009 is celebrated as the centenary of Scouting in South Australia and also of 1st Grange if it had not closed.

Once the Council had been appointed, Scout troops could be registered. The first troop registered was 1st Peterborough and 1st Grange was the eleventh. Boys in suburbs and country towns had spontaneously formed themselves into patrols and then sought leaders. Scouts had begun meeting at Grange before official registration.

On Friday 1 October 1909 Scout K.M. McLean wrote to Mr Kirkham Evans, a member of the State Council, stating that the *Seagull* Patrol at Grange had, by a large majority, decided to affiliate with the Executive Council of the South Australian Boy Scout Association and sought information about how to proceed. K.M. McLean was probably about 15 years old. He was the secretary of the Patrol. His letter is the earliest evidence of the beginning of Scouting at Grange. That letter and all other information in this article have been sourced from the Scout Archives in Reddie Street, Henley Beach.

The decision made by the *Seagull* Patrol was significant because there was an alternative Scouting group at that time called *The British Boy Scouts*. It had been established in Adelaide by J.A. Ivett and J.R. Coory. It was a breakaway organisation from Baden-Powell's Scouts and admitted only British boys – anathema to Baden-Powell. Tensions among Scouts were high in Adelaide, so the decision of this patrol of eight boys at Grange was of great importance. Dr Shepherd, State Commissioner, replied to Scout McLean stating that the Grange Patrol's decision was 'no doubt the correct one' and informing him that the next step was to gather a second patrol, after which a troop could be formed and a Scoutmaster appointed. In the meantime, the Grange Patrol would be attached to the 1st North Adelaide Troop (number four). Help

would be given to form a Local Association. Dr Shepherd suggested that Scout McLean contact Mr Ralph of Henley Beach who would be able to assist the patrol.

One week later on 8 October Scout McLean wrote to Dr Shepherd that a second patrol had been formed and a Scoutmaster, John Donaldson, elected. Unfortunately there is nothing in the records to say how this had been achieved. Dr Shepherd was also told that the patrol had decided to approach the Chairman of the Woodville District Council asking him to form a committee in the district. Council acted quickly. Would today's councils be so responsive? A public meeting of ratepayers of the Henley and Grange wards was called for Thursday 28 October when a local committee was formed.

On 1 November Donaldson reported that a savings bank account had been opened and a substantial donation to the funds offered. He also announced that he would be bringing the two patrols to the city for the Scout church parade on the following Sunday afternoon.

All the organisation of the Scout Association in this first year was being done by a small voluntary committee with E.S. Apps as secretary. Rules for the movement's conduct were being sent from London as they were being formulated. It is therefore understandable that Donaldson wrote on 5 November, disappointed with the decision that the appointment of Scoutmasters had been vested in State Council, 'thus depriving Scouts of the privilege of electing their own'. This is an example of how quickly the movement became an organisation. Nevertheless, through the patrol system, Scouts have always had their own decisions to make. In the same letter Donaldson asked if a girls' troop could be formed at Grange. There is no reply to this request in the records. The answer would have been a definite 'no' and remained so in South Australia until 1985.

Donaldson was obviously a keen leader with many ideas, but he was careful to seek appropriate approvals from the Association. He suggested that the Scouts of South Australia should start a *Scout gazette* to which he would be a willing contributor. He sought, and gained, permission to test his Scouts for the Tenderfoot badge (membership qualification including knowing the Scout law and promise) although the Tenderfoot buttonhole badges were not yet available from London. He sought the Commissioner's patronage at a concert the troop was arranging to raise funds on 8 December. He obtained the approval of his committee for the appointment of Ernest Kelsey, aged 18, of Henley Beach, as adjutant (assistant Scoutmaster).

Considerable effort must have been needed by Donaldson to arrange for his troop to attend a special showing for Scout groups at Best's Pictures at the corner of Gouger Street and Victoria Square on Thursday 25 November. He wrote that he did not get home from work until 6.00 pm and requested that his boys be allowed to march directly from the railway station as they could not arrive by train until 7.45pm.

The Association arranged the first state camp at Milang in December 1909. A plaque at Milang records this event. Donaldson wrote on 14 December that to join the camp was beyond the troop's means 'as we are anxious to possess our own tents and we are unable to do so and pay the camp expenses as well'. The boys and the committee were involved in this decision. They did not want only some of the troop to go and did not have the money to hire sufficient tents required for such a camp. They were opposed to charging the parents. Another difficulty was that the camp began on Christmas Day.

Donaldson's church duties meant that he could not leave until 27 December. Moreover, most of the parents wanted their sons at home on Christmas Day.

Donaldson sought particulars of the duties for the proposed permanent secretary of the Scout Association and 'whether he would be expected to devote the whole or only a portion of his time to the work'. Then, on 8 December 1909, he applied to the Commissioner for the position of Permanent Secretary of the State Council. He quoted the Rev. Canon Blackburn BA, rector of Woodville, as a referee and also 'nine gentlemen forming the Grange Committee'. He did not get the position.

A final letter from Donaldson for 1909 expressed his concern that Coory was continually attempting to undermine Baden-Powell's Scouts by constant letters in the *Advertiser*. 'It is such a grievous pity that he will not consider what is best for the boys themselves and not his own position in the movement'.

At the beginning of 1910 the Grange troop was developing strongly. Three patrols had been formed and their registration fees of 7/6 paid. That meant that there were at least eighteen Scouts. Two city events involved the troop in February, an activity at Montefiore Hill and a 'dispatch run' - activities not explained. By early March Donaldson had purchased 15 Tenderfoot and 8 Second Class badges. These were for levels of achievement in activities outlined in *Scouting for boys*.

A concert was arranged for 16 March. Donaldson was bold enough to write for permission to seek the patronage and presence of his Excellency the Governor. He asked the Association to print 200 tickets and programmes which, he said, he would pay for after the event. The aim of the concert was 'to augment our troop funds' as he was taking the troop to Gawler for Easter camp.

The troop, including mounted members, was again involved in practice manoeuvres on the Jubilee Oval leading to the 1910 Exhibition from March to May. In this period one letter he wrote was headed 1st Grange and Alberton Anglicans. There is nothing in the records to explain this combined troop.

Donaldson had constant health problems. He wrote to the General Secretary E.J. Apps, the man who gained the appointment Donaldson had applied for, stating that

I have been recommended to try and obtain outdoor employment as being more suitable for my health. While not in any immediate hurry, if you and your Council could put me in the way of anything of that kind (not hard laborious work), I should be very grateful. Shall be well enough to go into camp and expect to have about 20 boys and two adjutants with me.

Then on 20 March he wrote saying that he was much better and would 'make a big effort to go into camp with my boys' but would not go to night time Scouters' meetings as he wanted 'to avoid night air'.

By May a combined troop with Croydon had been formed. Donaldson recommended that Adjutant Clarence Yeo of Croydon 'be promoted to the rank of Assistant Scoutmaster of the Grange and Croydon troop.' All this activity in early 1910 suggests that 1st Grange was an active and growing troop. But something happened and the troop collapsed. On 19 October Donaldson wrote to Apps tendering his resignation. His reason was that he had left Grange and was unable to devote the necessary time required of a Scoutmaster. He said he would forward the names of the Scouts 'still remaining in

the troop although many had fallen away'. He gave no suggestions for the continuation of the troop. One would have expected that he would have nominated his assistant Scoutmaster at least on an interim basis. He said that owing to lack of support the troop, was compelled to disband. Thus ended the first life of the 1st Grange Troop.

In August 1911 Donaldson wrote to the General Secretary stating that he was considering offering his services again but not at Grange, because 'I do not think there is much chance there of resurrecting the movement'.

In the *Scout Leader* of July 1932 Donaldson wrote about 1st Grange,

We had boys from Henley, Grange, Woodville and Croydon. We met at the house of the late Mr. Crispe who had two sons in the troop. (Clem and Wally). Later we secured the use of a shed on the beach. The Grange, which was not then so extensively built on was an ideal spot for scouting, and we had some glorious times in the sand hills. Our first camp was held at Easter 1910 at Coromandel Valley and proved most successful. I had Messrs. Kelsey and Yeo as assistant scoutmasters - two fine young fellows.

He went on to say that a number of the boys of the troop had been killed in the Great War. He remembered them with great sadness.

Scout troops in Adelaide had been divided into four districts. A short account of 1st Grange written in the *D District Souvenir*, published circa 1929, begins with the statement that the 1st Grange Troop was started, not restarted, on Friday 9 March 1920, with five boys forming the *Curlew* patrol, and that in a few more weeks two more patrols were formed. This suggests that there was no memory of the original troop. However Donaldson, who was then District Commissioner, claimed that he was also the Scoutmaster and that his assistants were J. Forgie and Frank Anderson. Forgie retired in 1921 and Donaldson stated that he 'handed over the charge of the troop to Mr J Hollwill'. Neither Forgie nor Anderson are mentioned in the *D District Souvenir* but Hollwill is. When he retired the troop was led by Mr E. Logan. Meetings were held in one of the back rooms of the Grange Institute. There was no electric light. The troop moved to a boat shed on the beach lent by Mr Storr. The troop went into camp at Christmas 1920 with the 1st Woodvilles (sic) at Noarlunga. There were 19 Grange boys and 27 from Woodville.

A local committee was formed in 1921 with Mr G.G. Nicholls elected as president. The name of the troop was altered to 1st Henley and Grange. In the Easter holidays of 1921 'members of the troop with the help of parents and others erected a troop room on the beach between Henley and Grange'.

The 1st Henley and Grange Rover Crew (not listed at that time on the State records) began by resolution at a meeting held on 23 January 1922 and conducted by Scoutmaster E. Logan who outlined the purpose of the Rover movement. E. Vivian was elected as Rover Mate. It would seem that not all new Rovers had been Scouts as part of the second meeting was devoted to learning to tie knots.

In that first year the crew held Easter and Christmas camps, attended three Church parades with the troop members and joined with other Rovers to welcome home the four Rovers who had attended the World Jamboree. One member, Rover A.J.G.

Williams was appointed as the first district Rover Scoutmaster on 22 July 1924 to assist Commissioner Part in controlling and organising the Rover movement in the state.

Despite all this evidence given that the troop was reformed in 1920, the first official registration (re-registration) of 1st Grange as 1st Henley and Grange is on 15 April 1923 and the first Scoutmaster is listed as E. Logan 15 May 1923 to 18 August 1925.

At a meeting of parents, citizens and Scouts on 17 July 1924, in the presence of Scoutmaster Logan, the Chairman of the committee Mr E.G. Nicholls and the Chief Commissioner Captain S.A. White, the District Commissioner, Mr Piper, gave an informative address on the Wolf Cub movement and commended the Cub pack recently formed at 1st Henley and Grange. The troop then comprised of 45 Scouts, 12 Rovers and 8 Cubs. Rovers present took the opportunity to state that a new hall at least twice the size of the original hall was urgently needed and to pledge their support in that cause. They wanted a two-storey building with a large hall and an upper-storey den for the Rovers.

A ladies' committee was then formed from the following: Mesdames Williams, Annals, Nichols, Moodie, Holwill, Jones, and Kerrison and Miss Logan. Mrs W. Spofford was the convener.

A building committee was also appointed consisting of Alderman Kerrison, Rev. Mr Hawke, Messrs Willoughby, Annals, Freeman, Storr, Moody, Lee, Logan, (sen) Siggs, Williams and Nicholls.

The ladies moved quickly. They arranged a children's fancy dress ball in the Henley Memorial Hall for the building fund. By December the fund held £60. The need for a new hall had increased as the cub pack by then had 28 boys. It was many years before the hall was built.

A newspaper cutting of 18 March 1925 contains the following story.

On Sunday morning last at about 11 o'clock the alarm was given that a little girl of three or four years of age was missing at Kirkcaldy. Scoutmaster E Logan, Cubmaster W. Logan and Rover Scoutmaster A.J.G. Williams with the scouts immediately turned out. They first beat the water systematically between Henley and Grange and ascertained that the child was not there. The shore and inland parts were searched well into the afternoon and finally Mr Williams and Mr A Northey with the father of the child found her at South Henley where she had walked and was with some other girls. Much praise is due to the scouts.

While Mr Logan was Scoutmaster the troop won the football premiership in 1923-4-5, thus winning the Australian Flag. The Weigall Cup was won in 1924. Logan retired in August 1925 from being Scoutmaster and Rover Scoutmaster. According to the Scout Association records, the Rev. A.L. Bulbeck, who held a significant place in Scouting in South Australia well into the 1950s, became Scoutmaster from 17 November 1925 to 29 October 1926 but he is not mentioned in the *D District Souvenir*. Instead, that account states that Mr E. Vivian took charge with Mr H. Leaver as assistant. Both had been scouts in the troop, both were appointed as Assistant Scoutmasters on 15 December 1925. In 1926 the troop won both the Weigall Cup for athletics with K. Mutton winning every event in which he entered and the Gosse Cup for swimming held at the City Baths

In December 1927 two more former Scouts of the troop Mr D. Freeman and Mr L.H. Neville led the troop and the cub pack respectively as acting ASMs. They were probably too young to receive warrants. With their leadership the troop won the Corston Cup at the district swimming carnival in 1928. At that time 1st Henley and Grange must have been known as one of the leading troops in the metropolitan area.

Apart from dates of resignations there are no records of the misfortunes of the troop in the next few years. Neville retired at the end of 1928 and Freeman at the end of 1929. The troop went in to recess on 17 May 1934 and merged with the 1st Henley Sea Scout Troop.



Boy Scouts, c.1911.
(Courtesy Scout Archives)



Sydney Alfred Tyler, 16 years,
Kings Scout, 1st Kensington Group
1913-1917.
(Courtesy Scout Archives)

SOME BREWERIES OF THE WESTERN SUBURBS OF ADELAIDE

By John V. Harvey

The early settlers of South Australia brought with them a liking for beer and it was not long after foundation of the colony that the need for a supply of locally-produced ale was recognised. In 1837-38, with the permission of Governor Hindmarsh, two small breweries were established in tents and crude huts in the park lands near the River Torrens. The first of these, conducted by John Warren, was known as the Torrens Brewery and the second, which lasted a few months only, was established by a Mr Lillyman. The Torrens Brewery was destroyed when the river flooded in 1844 and public concern about the use of the park lands for commercial purposes then dictated that it not be rebuilt on its existing site. However, by that time ten other breweries had been started in or near Adelaide; most of which had short lives.

The river flood plain west of the city was recognised early as suitable for industrial and commercial use and Hindmarsh Town, the first private town in the colony, was laid out on land sold to the developers by Governor Hindmarsh in 1838. In the 1840s, several industries were established here, utilising water from the River Torrens and nearby shallow wells. One of these industries was brewing, an undertaking that was at times fraught with difficulty in South Australia's climate. Brewing in high ambient temperatures, without the aid of any form of artificial cooling, was hazardous and most early colonial beers varied greatly in quality and continued to do so until the advent of mechanical refrigeration late in the 19th century. Colonial beers were often referred to by the derogatory term 'swanky' and many colonists preferred to drink imported beers (when they could obtain them) which were of better and more consistent quality, but more expensive.

As the river later became contaminated by effluent from wool scouring, tanning and other pursuits, it is assumed that the brewers used rainwater or ground (well) water. Some early brewers produced their own malt and it is known that some of the first beers were brewed mainly from malted wheat as locally-grown barley suitable for malting was in short supply; eventually, considerable quantities of barley malt were imported but by the end of the century malt prepared from local barley predominated. Initially, all hops were imported from overseas or Tasmania, but by 1870 hops grown in the Adelaide Hills met some of the demand. All brewers produced only ale, using traditional British 'top' fermentation procedures (lager or 'bottom' fermentation brewing did not come to South Australia until very late in the 19th century). Initially most of the trade was in bulk (cask) beers as bottling facilities were limited.

The following account gives glimpses only of the history of some of the larger and more resilient brewing ventures established in the western suburbs from the 1840s and also notes some smaller ephemeral businesses. In the early decades of settlement, the licensees of many hotels brewed their own beer and it is probable that some in the

western region followed this practice. This account, however, deals only with separate premises or ventures dedicated to brewing for sale to publicans and others.

Hindmarsh

There were two major breweries in Hindmarsh. The first was established by Daniel Cudmore in 1841 on two acres fronting Robert and Manton Streets, an area now included in the Adelaide Entertainment Centre complex. Edward J. Crawford, an early colonist who had been farming near Adelaide, leased the Hindmarsh Brewery from Cudmore in 1843. Two years later he purchased the property and, with several of his brothers, rapidly acquired interests in public houses in Adelaide, Brighton, Goodwood, Hindmarsh and Port Adelaide, as well as in some country areas. In 1859, apparently under financial stress, he assigned the brewery to J. Solomon and T. Graves and operations on the site ceased until W.K. Simms (then owner of the West End brewery in the city) took over a portion of the property as a malthouse in 1862. The brewery itself remained idle until it was acquired in 1876 by R. Strutton and C.W.F. Trapmann and their venture, the Kangaroo Brewery, operated relatively successfully for a few years; Strutton had previously been the bottler in Adelaide for Haussen and Catchlove (see below). After Trapman retired in 1882 the brewery was sold to Henry Edmeades who closed it in 1884. Later, a portion of the site was used by maltsters Barrett Bros Pty Ltd until about 1950; the remaining land was earlier utilised for housing and other development. Strutton continued to operate, as Strutton & Co, in the Thebarton area as an aerated water and cordial manufacturer until 1914.

The second brewery was started in 1859 by James Watson and B. Bauer on the western side of Richard Street, but in less than a year J. Coulthard was lessee, followed quickly in 1861 by Edward Crawford, who had returned to Hindmarsh after two failed brewing ventures in Adelaide itself. In 1868 Crawford sold to Herman Haussen and his brother-in-law George Catchlove; by then the brewery also had cellars and offices in Hindley Street, Adelaide. Haussen died in 1870 and his widow, Rosa, carried on the business with her brother George. In 1874 she married F.E. Bucknall (who a few years later, as one of the Grange Partners, was involved in the development of Grange and also built Estcourt House at Tennyson). Bucknall and Frank Botting joined the brewery partnership which then traded as Haussen & Co and when Bucknall retired in 1881, Botting continued with his father Francis Botting. The company was incorporated in 1910 and brewing continued on this site until 1927; at the time of closure it was one of South Australia's longest operating breweries, spanning 68 years. The company's hotels were then supplied from the Walkerville Brewery, just across the river. The old Haussen site in Richard Street is now occupied by Options Wine Merchants who have refurbished the cellars to create attractive areas for storing and tasting premium wines.

Also in Hindmarsh, Thwaite's Brewery is listed as operating in Cator Street in 1896/97, but this was probably the home address of Thomas Thwaites, the brewer at Haussen's, and thus not the site of a working brewery.

Thebarton

The only large brewery remaining in the western suburbs, the Thebarton plant of the South Australian Brewing Co Pty Ltd, (SABC) was established as the Torrensides Brewery in 1886 by brothers A.W. and T.C. Ware. They were later joined by two other brothers and in 1898 they amalgamated with E. Clark & Co of East Adelaide Brewery and in the same year sold to Walkerville Cooperative Brewing Co Ltd. The latter then ceased brewing at Walkerville and concentrated production at Thebarton (Southwark), renaming the site Walkerville Brewery and increasing its capacity. Forty years later,

Walkerville Co-op was taken over by SABC and the name changed to Nathan Brewery, derived from the patented Nathan brewing system then in use. The premises were renamed Southwark Brewery in 1949.

In 1938, when acquired by SABC, Walkerville Brewery provided beer for its own freehold and leasehold hotels and was also contracted to supply beer to hotels controlled by other companies no longer brewing, viz. Chambers & Blades Ltd (Adelaide); Haussen & Co (Hindmarsh); J. & A.G. Johnston Ltd (Oakbank); Lion Brewing Co Ltd (North Adelaide) and Syme & Sison (Adelaide). That year SABC thus became the dominant force in brewing in the state, a position which it held unchallenged for nearly 50 years.

Major upgrades of the Thebarton brewery were undertaken in the 1920s, regularly through 1950s to the 1970s and particularly in the 1980s, following the closure of SABC's West End Brewery in the city; another upgrade is currently in progress. Nevertheless, a significant portion of the original Torrenside Brewery building, dating from 1886 and heritage-listed, still remains. SABC became a subsidiary of trans-Tasman beverage company Lion Nathan in 1993 and the brewery, noted for its flexible production facilities, is an important unit in their operations. For the past 50 years the site has been noted for its riverbank gardens and today is generally referred to as West End Brewery. A sign bearing 'Southwark Brewery' was removed a few years ago but entries under both names occur in the 2009 Adelaide telephone directory.

Port Adelaide & Glanville (Ethelton)

William Knapman, a carpenter by trade, arrived in South Australia in 1854 and followed his trade until 1860 when he leased (with right of purchase) the White Horse cellars, originally built as a theatre and hotel, on the south-west corner of St Vincent Street and Commercial Road, Port Adelaide. By 1865 Knapman owned the premises and had established a small brewery in the theatre section; he later expanded the plant, known as the Steam Brewery, and in 1878 transferred operations to a larger site in nearby Cannon Street and by 1883 had sold the original corner premises. One product of the new brewery of W. Knapman & Son was *Big Gun Ale* and the premises were often known as the Big Gun Brewery. Knapman died in 1908 and, when brewing ceased in 1910, the buildings were demolished and the site sold to timber merchants Walter & Morris. Knapman's freehold hotels, in city and country, were then supplied by SABC from the West End Brewery.

William J. Wooldridge, first licensee of the Carpenters' Arms Hotel at 144 St Vincent Street, Port Adelaide, in 1851, brewed on that site and later at the Robe Brewery in nearby Robe Street. In 1856 he was the first publican of the Railway Hotel, also in St Vincent Street, and after his death in 1857 his son William R. Wooldridge continued brewing at Robe Street until at least 1868.

The Glanville Brewery was established at the corner of Marion and Deslandes Streets, Ethelton, by William Goodier in 1879 and traded until liquidation in 1907, in later years as Goodier, Reid Brewing Co Ltd. The trademark was a sailing ship and the products - ale, stout and tonic - were popular locally. A photograph of 1894 shows a substantial brewery, complete with malthouse with Goodier's home next door. The demise of this enterprise was probably due in part to the stringent and expensive demands of the *Federal Excise Act*, the introduction of which in 1902 led to the closure of many smaller brewing ventures throughout Australia.

In the mid -1980s, early in the craft-brewing movement in Australia, the first such brewery to be licensed in South Australia was at the Port Dock Brewery Hotel, 10 Todd Street, Port Adelaide. This venture, located in the old Dock Hotel which had been delicensed in 1909, involved extensive renovations and additions before opening in December 1986. Since then the operation has been through a number of changes of ownership and management; amongst people involved in its early years was Duncan MacGillivray of *Two Dogs Lemonade* fame. By 1999 the venture was in the doldrums but in recent years, under the guidance of John Cowled, the brewery has been enlarged and bottling facilities added. The hotel and brewery, now trading as Port Adelaide Brewing Co, is a popular historic venue.

Other localities

In Glenelg, a company called Cooper & Crabb Ltd was incorporated in 1933 with the address 88 Durham Street. They were listed as brewers in 1935 only and the brewery closed late that year. It is not known if their *Two Seas Ale* was ever marketed but labels for the product exist. Christopher Booth Cooper, one of the partners, was a descendant of Thomas Cooper, founder of the Coopers Brewery dynasty, but he did not play any part in that family company.

The existence of a brewery at Reedbeds (Fulham) was noted by *The Register* October 30, 1850 which praised the quality of Mr George Fisher's ale from the recently established Reedbeds Brewery, noting it was 'not only superior to the ordinary run of Colonial Swanky but a near approach to genuine imported Burton'. Apparently, the brewery lasted a short time only and it is thought that George Fisher was not related to notable South Australian pioneer Sir James Hurtle Fisher, whose sons operated the nearby successful Lockleys Stud.

The assistance of historian Alison Painter in the preparation of this account is gratefully acknowledged.

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**Cask (keg) hall, Southwark Brewery, 1956. (note: both wooden and stainless casks in use)
(Courtesy S.A. Brewing Company Limited Archives)**



**Southwark Brewery from the air c. 1980. (shows new Hindmarsh Bridge in foreground &
original 1886 brew tower - now white - in centre)
(Courtesy S.A. Brewing Company Limited Archives)**

HENLEY HOTEL

By Joan Ferguson

‘The Henley Hotel was erected in 1878 by Mr J. Stewart, a baker of Portland Estate, Port Adelaide, who held the first licence. At this time it was believed that the Henley Jetty would be constructed opposite the site of the hotel.’ (Souvenir program of 29th Henley and Grange Regatta, 1933.)

Mr J. Stewart had foreseen the need for a hotel in the newly-developing area of Henley Beach and had the hotel built near the foreshore on the sand dunes where it stood relatively isolated for many years. This was the first hotel to be built in the Henley and Grange area preceding both the Grange (1882) Hotel and the Ramsgate (1897).

The hotel was known as Stewart’s Hotel from 1879-1881 and from 1883-1889. The Henley Hotel was one of the first buildings in Henley Beach and reflects the early development of Henley and Grange as seaside resorts.

From the 1910s through to the 1920s the hotel was named Whallins Henley Hotel, with Herman and Charles Whallin the proprietors from 1911 to 1922. Alongside the hotel at the time stood the Ozone Tearooms run by Miss Whallin who provided holidaymakers and local residents with scones, tea, cool drinks and ice-creams.

In the 1960s and into the 1980s the hotel operated as Harvey’s Hotel, so named for the then proprietor, Lloyd Thomas Harvey.

By 1980 the ground floor had been enclosed to form extra room to the bar area. As eating out became more popular the hotel was extended northwards to form a dining room with an open-air section facing the sea. A gaming room and bottle shop were also included. Original cast-iron brackets were still in place when Danvers Architects prepared the *Heritage survey of the City of Henley and Grange* in 1993, including a description of the Henley Hotel as follows:

Two storey brick and rendered building. Decorative parapet with ‘1878’ engraved over west elevation, corrugated iron infill to ground floor verandah (since removed) and cast iron brackets and panels to upper verandah. Painted brick chimneys with rendered detailing to top. Timber and glazed addition to north.

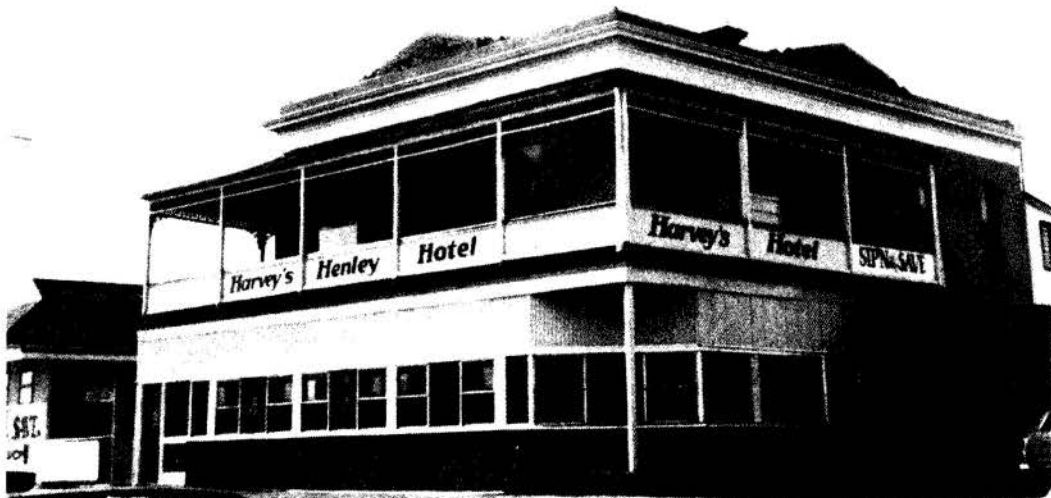
The first floor wooden verandah rail was replaced with a metal one giving a lighter look to the building.

In 2007 the enclosed bar area was removed to provide outside tables and chairs to facilitate smokers when the non-smoking legislation in hotels came into force.

The Henley Hotel, as with most hotels, has seen many changes over its life. Early hotels of South Australia were obliged to offer help to travellers and had a red light glowing to show their existence at night. However, hotels along the seafront could dispense with this obligation as it might confuse passing ships. The three hotels in Henley and Grange all provide a valuable resource to the community in attracting visitors to the area.



**Whallins Henley Hotel 1911-1922, with Miss Whallin's Ozone Tearooms adjacent, when John, Herman and Charles Whallin were the proprietors from 1911-1922.
(Henley & Grange Historical Society)**



**Harvey's Henley Hotel showing the enclosed verandah, 1980.
(Photo by George Willoughby, Henley & Grange Historical Society)**



**Henley Hotel showing dining area and still-enclosed verandah, 2006;
the cast-iron balcony brackets have gone.**

(Photo by Joan Ferguson, Henley & Grange Historical Society)

List of Publicans, 1878 to 1984

The following list of publicans of the Henley Hotel is taken from J.L. Hoad's *Hotels and publicans in South Australia, 1836-1984*.

1878	Thomas Arthur Stewart
1880	Mrs Elizabeth Oliver
1885	John Wickens Excell
1886	Mrs Elizabeth Excell
1888	Elizabeth Luck
1887	Thomas Marshall
1889	John Dudley
1889	Wallace Tucker
1889	Elizabeth Isenberg
1890	Herman Franz Leopold Isenberg
1890	William J.B. McNamee
1898	August F. Schroeder
1899	Richard Hanson
1900	Emily Chambers
1901	Charles A. Chambers
1901	Walter W. Cottrell
1905	Elizabeth Burns and Miss Bridget and Miss Teresa Maloney
1906	Alfred R. Cragen
1911	John Whallin
1911	Herman Whallin
1922	Charles Whallin
1923	Percy Boyes McRae
1924	Michael and Ellen Leonard
1926	Mrs Annie M. Minchan

1927	George C. Richards
1928	Frederick W.M. Roepeke
1932	F.T. Roepeke
1936	Mrs Marie Hedwig
1939	John Middleton George Siggins
1942	Mrs Mary Francis Lee
1943	Mrs Marjorie Irene Haydock
1943	John Broughton Foulds
1946	Mrs Rebecca Veronica Siggins
1949	Raymond George Milne
1950	Marcella Elizabeth Ward
1950	Edmund Cecil Rook
1951	Thelma Marie Marshall
1952	Edward Ray Wilkins
1953	Thomas and Katherine Hooper
1956	Maxwell and Elizabeth Burpee
1959	Dennis and Beverly Sharp
1963	Ronald Edward Arnold
1965	Leonard James Cogan
1966	Ashley Tasman Koch
1968	Lloyd Thomas Harvey
1969	Stanley John Davis
1969	Lloyd Thomas Harvey
1971	Stanley John Davis
1971	Lloyd Thomas Harvey
1981	Jeffrey George Griffiths
1984	L.T. Harvey
1984	Neil Ayres
1985	Lyndon Colin Goldsworthy
1983 - 93	Robert James Hendrie

From the list you can see the hotel's publicans held the licence for quite short periods, in some cases less than a year, and that women held the licence in their own name 13 times.

Sources

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HENLEY & GRANGE TOWN HALL THEATRE

AND CHARLIE YEOMANS

By Ron Cassidy

The Henley & Grange Town Hall doubled as a picture theatre for many years. Silent films were projected on the silver screen, with the theatre atmosphere complementing the action on the screen created by music from a piano, backed against the stage. The very able pianist, a lady, kept the music played in harmony with the constantly changing mood of the film; cowboys on galloping horses - music loud and quick; scene sad and moving - music slow and doleful. Fred Thompson and Hoot Gibson (cowboys of the Wild West), Shirley Temple, Charlie Chaplin, Clara Bow, Jackie Cooper, Norma Shearer and the Marx Brothers were among the stars she saw on the screen.

1927 saw the end of the silent movies. Al Jolson launched the talkies that year when he sang *Mammie* in the film *Jazz Singer*.

Saturday afternoon matinees were popular with boys and girls. The program comprised a serial, newsreel, full-length movie and two or three short films on a variety of subjects. Serials, the first shown, had a half-hour run; these were generally about the cowboys, Indians, sheriffs and action in the Wild West. The serial finished with an intriguing situation that made you want to be there next Saturday to see what would happen. Children generally sat in the cheaper stall chairs. Those with an adult often in the dearer dress circle with its comfortable seating and better viewing from stepped-up rows of seats.

About half of the hall was used for both stalls and dress circle. The front half, stage to dress circle, the stalls; back half, back of stalls to back of hall, dress circle. The dress circle was in two sections, each of the same area. They were separated by a walkway from the entrance foyer where the ticket box was located. Both sections had steps ascending to the rear wall of the hall with a row of chairs running to the side wall from each step. Both walkway railings and the two dress circles bottom railings were sheeted with thick black cloth. Entrance to the two circles was by way of an opening at the first step of the stairs.

Local advertising for coming films was by large multicoloured thick paper sheets, about a foot wide and two and a half feet long, displaying the film title, names of the stars on a background of an artist's colourful portrayal of a scene from the film. They were distributed to shops where they were generally hung on the front of counters. They were also hung on the wall of the Town Hall foyer between the entrance and ticket box. Proprietors of shops displaying the sheets were given free tickets to see films. I

understand these advertising sheets are now prized by collectors and can fetch thousands of dollars when sold.

The sheets of the 1930s advertised films with stars including Clark Gable, Judy Garland, Spencer Tracy, Jack Hawkins, James Stewart, Frank Sinatra, Claudette Colbert and Gene Kelly.

Mr Charles Madison Yeomans, always known as Charlie, was the Town Clerk of Henley and Grange from June 1923 to October 1931. Most, if not all, of those years, the school children of Henley and Grange received invitations, through their schools, to a free picture show at the Town Hall. The invitations came from Charlie Yeomans to celebrate his birthday. The picture show was on a Saturday, or the one nearest his birthday. On the big day Charlie would be at the Town Hall early in the afternoon with a big bag of lollies in his hand. He would stand at the southern side of the walkway between the dress circles with his bag of lollies. There he greeted the children, handing each a lolly as they walked past.

Charlie Yeomans was a very popular and respected Town Clerk, his standing in the community exemplified by the building of the Yeomans Playground. Its southern entrance was near the ornate musical merry-go-round standing at the end of the row of sideshows stretching southwards towards the jetty.

A large open sided-shelter shed, giving shade to families, was at the northern end of the playground. Between it and the southern entrance were swings, seesaws, hand-over-hand parallel bars, a roundabout and a high slippery dip. The standing platform of the slippery dip was reached by a ladder fixed to the structure.

Charlie Yeomans is also honoured by the street named Yeomans Avenue running between HMAS Australia Road and Henley Beach Road, South Henley and by the large block of three-storey flats named Yeomans on the large site bounded by Burnley Street, Fletcher Road, Anderson Street and HMAS Australia Road.

SERVICEMEN FROM CBC SEAGULL PATROL

By Ron Cassidy

During the early 1930s a group of Scouts, the 8th Adelaide Christian Brothers College, Wakefield Street, met in the college gymnasium on Friday evenings. Five of them living at Henley Beach/Kirkcaldy travelled by train to the Adelaide Railway Station, then walked to the College for the weekly meeting.

Because the five came from a seaside area they became the Seagull Patrol. The Patrol's neckerchief sported bright blue with yellow edging and a small purple triangle at the apex.

The five members of the Patrol were Jim Cassidy, Hughie Griffith, Kevin O'Connell, Max Rutter and Ron Cassidy.

Kevin O'Connell went on to become a very good swimmer, winning the swim through Adelaide and state championships.

They all served in the armed forces during World War Two.

Flight Lieutenant M.J. (Jim) Cassidy DFC 417801 RAAF trained in Australia on single engine aircraft then conversion courses in England to multi-engine Lancaster bombers. He flew 36 operations, six with 9 Squadron of the Pathfinder Force.

Sergeant Pilot H.P. (Hughie) Griffith 416761 RAAF trained in Australia on multi-engine aircraft. Posted to England, he did operational training on multi-engine aircraft to advance to flying Wellington bombers. He was killed in an aircraft crash on 16 June 1943 and buried in Banbury Cemetery.

Private K.P. (Kevin) O'Connell SX2242 served with the 9th Division AIF in the Middle East. He fought in the battle of Tobruk and became one of the Rats of Tobruk. Captured by the enemy, he was held in a prisoner of war camp in Udine, Italy.

Corporal M.J. (Max) Rutter SX4055, 2/27 Battalion, 7th Division AIF served in Middle East and in New Guinea when the 7th Division returned to stop the Japanese advance towards Port Moresby. He was killed on 8 September 1942 in the ensuing battle which forced the Japanese back along the Kokoda Track. He is buried in the Bomana War Cemetery, Port Moresby.

Leading Aircraftman R.R. (Ron) Cassidy 416930 RAAF Radar served in the Northern Territory - 44 Radar Wing, Peron Island, North Goulburn Island and in New Guinea - Krankit Island, Madang.



Flight Lieutenant M.J. (Jim) Cassidy, 1945.
(Courtesy Ron Cassidy)



Sergeant Pilot H.P. (Hughie) Griffith,
Geraldton, Western Australia, 1941.
(Courtesy Ron Cassidy)



Leading Aircraftman R.R. (Ron) Cassidy, 1942.
(Courtesy Ron Cassidy)

CHARLES STURT - A FOUNDER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA?

By Arthur Jeeves



Captain Charles Sturt, 1853,
from a view held by the Charles Sturt Memorial Museum Trust.
(Courtesy State Library of South Australia, B 70378/2)

The question of whether or not Captain Charles Sturt was one of the Founders of South Australia, continues to engage and divide historians to this very day. His biographer Mrs N.G. (Beatrix) Sturt, whose work was based on actual conversations with Sturt himself and her access to his journals and personal papers, lists the foundation of South Australia as the result of the Murray Expedition of 1829-30, and she categorically states that the colony owed its being to him. In this she was no doubt guided by the claims made by Sturt himself when, in later life, he sought to be appointed to the post of Governor of Queensland. In his biography *Sturt of the Murray*, Michael Langley reverentially accords to him the title of 'The Father of Australian Exploration', attributes the settlement of the colony to the Murray River Expedition and propounds the theory that 'Wakefield's original inspiration, applied to Sturt's discovery, was the vehicle by which South Australia was created'. Cumpston in his biography *Charles Sturt: his life and journeys of exploration*, ranks Sturt as 'one of the real founders of South Australia', whilst Carnegie and Swan in their biography *In step with Sturt*, introduce new material and expert surveying opinion to challenge Langley's assertion

that Sturt was 'The Father of Australian Exploration', or that he was even our greatest explorer. Edgar Beale, one of the last and most scholarly of all his biographers, in his work *Sturt, the chipped idol*, clinically disassembles the myth and legend surrounding Charles Sturt to portray him as a brave man, a product of his time, who may have suffered from a parasitical infection (*Toxoplasma gondii*) that caused the periodic bouts of blindness that afflicted him from time to time. He further subjects Sturt's journals, writings and recorded behaviour to clinical psychological analysis, to demonstrate that he may also have suffered from a psychiatric condition, which at times caused him to lapse into bouts of self pity, depression, and delusion, because he had not been accorded the greatness that he believed was due to him. In canvassing this hypothesis, Beale's medical expert, Sir Kenneth Noad, who is highly regarded in medical circles for his special interest in neurological diseases, concludes his diagnosis of the evidence before him by stating the somewhat obvious that 'The Sturt Story is fascinating and an enigma. The real man we will never know'. Manning Clark, ever the pragmatist, attributed Sturt's problems to the fact that he had a domineering wife! I believe, however, that we can adopt a more sanguine approach, because the real Charles Sturt is still to be found in his journals and writings as is the answer to the question as to whether or not he was the explorer, discoverer, or founder of South Australia. For that we must revisit the events and writings of the past.

On the morning of 9 February 1830, the whaleboat carrying Captain Charles Sturt and his party reached a point on the river where, for the first time in many weeks, they could see a clear horizon to the South. Here they landed, and climbing to a high point on the left bank of the river to survey the country, Sturt recorded in his journal 'Immediately below me was a beautiful lake, which appeared to be a fitting reservoir for the noble stream that had led us to it; and which was now ruffled by the breeze that swept over it'. To his right were the distant ranges stretching from south to north, terminating abruptly at a lofty mountain which he incorrectly assumed to be the same feature that Matthew Flinders had named Mount Lofty in 1802, and immediately westwards was the ocean and the outfall where the waters of the lake entered Encounter Bay. Thirty three (33) days after they had set out in that whaleboat, from their depot near the present town of Maude in New South Wales, and 2,000 miles by his own calculations, Charles Sturt and his party reached their journey's end at 2.00 pm, when they entered that lake he was to name Lake Alexandrina in honour of the Princess who was to become Her Sovereign Majesty, Queen Victoria.

On this his second expedition, Sturt had followed the Murrumbidgee River on land from Jugiong in New South Wales until halted by the extensive marshlands, which he discovered were fed by the waters of the Lachlan River, and from thence seeped into the Murrumbidgee. There, on the banks of that river, he assembled and launched the whaleboat on its waters which he traced to their junction with what he described as 'a broad and noble stream', which he continued to follow to its confluence with yet another large river flowing into it from the north, near Wentworth in New South Wales. This he correctly adjudged to be the Darling River he had previously discovered on his first expedition in 1828 and named in honour of Governor Darling, and it was at this juncture that he named his 'broad and noble stream' the Murray in honour of Sir George Murray, the then Secretary of State for the Colonies. This act was a grave injustice to his friend and mentor, Hamilton Hume, whom he could not have failed to know had previously discovered that same broad and noble stream near the now site of Albury, in 1824, and named it the Hume in honour of his father. Sturt then continued to follow the Murray until it entered Lake Alexandrina and the sea at Encounter Bay, and by that journey and voyage of exploration, he had finally solved the riddle of the inland river

system of South Australia. Sturt had proved that many of the rivers of New South Wales lying to the West of the Great Dividing Range formed part of an extensive watershed that found its way to the south central coast of South Australia, where those waters entered the sea. This discovery opened up new lands for future settlement, profoundly affected the future course of Australian history and gained for him his place in history and that fame he believed was his destiny, but it did not bring with it the fortune he craved.

In compensation for his personal expenditures on the expedition, Governor Darling gave him a small grant of land which he sold and distributed part of the proceeds to the other members who had shared the dangers of the journey, but the military promotion he sought was denied him. He was returned to garrison duties where he remained until early 1832, at which time he returned to England for medical treatment. Here he was to embark on the next phase of his life by publishing the account of his exploration of the Murray/Darling River system of Southern Australia, which he titled *Two Expeditions into Southern Australia 1829-30*. This book became a best seller and containing as it did in Chapter VIII, the records of the 1831 exploration by the late Captain Collett Barker of the 39th Regiment of Foot, they arguably provided the stimulus that led to the settlement of the Colony of South Australia.

In 1831, in response to Charles Sturt's recommendation that the country around Lake Alexandrina was worthy of a closer and more attentive examination, Governor Darling directed Captain Collett Barker, who was returning to Sydney on board the schooner *Isabella* from duty in King George's Sound in Western Australia, to proceed to Cape Jervis, from which point it was thought he could best carry on a survey not only of the coast but also the interior. They arrived off Cape Jervis on 13 April 1831, commenced to explore the coast, and on the 17th, in the company of Mr John Kent of the Commissariat, his servant Mill, and two soldiers, Collett Barker explored the area finding good water, good soil and pasture. Leaving the two soldiers in bivouac. Barker and the others next climbed Mount Lofty, explored the range and discovered the mountain that in 1830 Sturt had mistaken for Mount Lofty. He was later to admit to this mistake, amend his charts and name that feature Mount Barker in honour of his brother officer who had discovered it. The exploration continued in its various forms until the party reached the mouth of the Murray where Captain Barker swam across the fast-flowing channel and climbed the large sandhill previously noted by Sturt. and there he met an untimely end. Having climbed this feature, he vanished from sight of the party, never to be seen again. Later inquiries revealed that he had been fatally speared by the Aborigines, his body thrown into the sea and carried away by the currents.

Thus died a brave soldier and true gentleman, the records of whose explorations, along with the subsequent observations of Mr Kent of the Commissariat, were to finally decide the proposed site for the settlement of the Colony of South Australia. To Barker and Kent must go that credit, not Charles Sturt, who was merely fulfilling the role of Captain Collett Barker's posthumous messenger. The sandhill that he climbed on that fateful day was named Barker's Knoll, but today it is long gone. It was still there in 1845 when it was sketched by the colonial artist George French Angas, but over the ensuing years the forces of the elements have changed the location of the outfall from Lake Alexandrina and the knoll was swept away.

Back in England in 1834, following the publication of his two volumes, and no doubt influenced by the knowledge that the 39th Regiment of Foot had been assigned to duty in India, Charles Sturt sold his commission, took a military pension of £100 per annum,

made application for a settler's land grant, married Charlotte Green, and set sail for the Colony of New South Wales. The Sturts first settled on a 1,300 acre property at Bargo Brush, near Mittagong, about 70 miles from Sydney, where in 1837 their first son, Napier George, was born. They then moved to a 1,000 acre property Sturt had purchased at Varroville, where in 1838 his second son, Charles Sheppey, was born. Meanwhile he had negotiated for a grant of 5,000 acres, in recognition of his 1828-29-30 expeditions, but it was conditional on his relinquishing his military pension of £100 per annum, which did not please him even though it was a very good arrangement.

Sturt selected his land in what is now the Australian Capital Territory, at a well-watered site bounded by the Murrumbidgee and Molongolo rivers and the Ginnendera Creek. He was now a man of some substance holding 7,300 acres of land and Governor Bourke had submitted his name for appointment to serve on the Colony's Legislative Council, but it was not to be. The Colonial Office chose not to appoint him, and his fortunes did not flourish because of successive years of drought, which led him to overland cattle to the Colony of South Australia, which at that time was enduring financial chaos and food shortages. In this he was encouraged by his young friend, Edward John Eyre, who later in February 1838 left Port Phillip, in what is now Victoria, with a mob of cattle he intended to overland, and the knowledge that in January 1838, two pastoralists, Hawdon and Bonney, had also left the Goulburn River in New South Wales with another large mob. In April 1838 Sturt formed a consortium with a group of wealthy Sydney merchants, on whose behalf he set out with 300 head of cattle, but his choice of route had more to do with exploration than commerce, because at heart Sturt was a dreamer.

After an incredible journey of ten weeks, Hawdon and Bonney arrived in Adelaide with their cattle in excellent condition, and they made a tidy profit. Eyre, who had previously overlanded stock to Port Phillip Bay, followed a route suggested by Sturt, but he became lost on the way and had to retrace much of his journey. He finally arrived in Adelaide and, being a shrewd businessman, he set up a station on the Sturt Creek from where he managed to sell his stock for a fair price, and therein is another story. Sturt, however, decided to follow the course of the Murray from near the now site of Albury, at or about the spot where Hume and Hovell had crossed it in 1824 and named it the Hume. Sturt's purpose of filling in the unknown course of the Murray above the Murrumbidgee junction was commendable, but it was a poor business decision because he did not arrive in Adelaide until the beginning of September 1838, with his cattle in poor condition, at a time when few people had any money left with which to pay for them. However, he was enthusiastically welcomed, accorded a public dinner, and the acting Governor sought his assistance to resolve the ongoing dispute surrounding Colonel Light's selection of the site of Adelaide as the colony's capital, which had caused its economy to stagnate.

Sturt rose to the challenge, exploring all the alternative sites including what is now Port Adelaide, the present sites of Victor Harbor, Port Elliott and the Murray outfall at Encounter Bay, which was the preferred site of a number of prominent citizens.

He returned and reported to the acting Governor that Encounter Bay was entirely unsuitable as an anchorage, thereby confirming Colonel Light's selection of the site of Adelaide. His finding was accepted by the citizenry, thereby settling the matter once and for all, and enabling the land sales upon which the economy of the colony was dependent, to proceed with confidence. Full credit must be given to Sturt for this decision, which was without doubt crucial to the future success of the colony, and the

manner in which it was accepted by the colonists, was attributable to the universal respect in which he was held.

The acting Governor, George Stephens, then offered Sturt the position of Colonial Surveyor, which he refused, but when it was later offered to him by Governor Gawler he accepted, sold his holdings in New South Wales, took a ship and arrived in the colony with his family in 1839, and settled on Town Acre 288, which was on the north eastern corner of Hutt and Wakefield streets, where in that year his third son, Evelyn Gawler, was born. Sturt took up the survey work abandoned by Colonel Light, but his appointment was to prove short-lived with the arrival of Lieutenant Frome from England, where he had been appointed by the Colonial Office, as the Colonial Surveyor of South Australia. Sturt accepted his demotion with good grace, formed a lasting friendship with Frome, was appointed by Governor Gawler to the position of Assistant Commissioner of Lands and, together with B.T. Finniss, he continued with the all-important land surveys. In 1840, he built his new home which he named *The Grange*, on property which he had both purchased, and been granted, in the area known as the Reed Beds, where the family settled, but Sturt's domestic contentment was not to last, and for that he had nobody but himself to blame.

Being aware that because of the precarious state of the Colony's finances Governor Gawler was to be recalled, Sturt considered himself to be a suitable candidate for the job. He was also aware that the 29 year old Captain George Grey, who had explored the northern region of Western Australia, was also a candidate for the office. In his memorial to the Secretary of State in London, Sturt reminded him of the high-handed manner in which he had been deprived of the position of Colonial Surveyor, and having pressed his case he tactlessly stated,

The appointment of Captain Grey, an officer much my junior in years and of less experience, would place me as subordinate to him in a situation which I could not but feel embarrassing and humiliating etc.

Grey got the job, saw the letter, and the stage was set for what followed. Along with many others, Sturt's salary of £600 per annum was reduced to £400. Grey later increased it to £600 and again reduced it to £400; the friction between them deteriorated into acrimony and increased to open hostility. Sturt had a young family to support, and the reduction in salary hit him so hard that in January 1843, he sent another memorial to London seeking redress of his situation. In this memorial he set out the train of events that led him to sell up and move to South Australia, the sacrifices and losses it entailed and his subsequent treatment by Grey. It is also interesting to note that for the first time Sturt presses his case by claiming that 'In the establishment of this province, save as its discoverer he had no share.' Notwithstanding his claim to be the discoverer of South Australia, the Board of Commissioners in London left the matter to the indulgence of Lord Stanley, which might account for what next happened.

Having achieved nothing by the memorial, Sturt sought the only other way he knew to escape from Grey, by pressing for permission to lead an expedition to the centre of the continent to find the mythical inland sea. Lord Stanley, in London, granted his petition and the departure was arranged for 10 August 1844. With 16 men, 11 horses, 32 bullocks, 5 drays, 1 horse dray, a whaleboat, 200 sheep, 4 kangaroo dogs and 2 sheep dogs, the party left Adelaide and headed northwards into a country that was in the grip of a terrible drought.

Pressing northwards, Sturt encountered a feature he named The Barrier Ranges, recording that the area exhibited good ore-bearing potential.

So great was his haste to reach the centre of Australia, that he traversed what was later to become known as Broken Hill, without giving any serious thought to prospecting the area or sending ore samples back to Adelaide for assay. Experiencing many privations because of the acute shortage of water, all the while exploring to right and left they found and named a number of creeks, until the expedition reached their first permanent water at a place they named Depot Glen on 27 January 1845, where they were to be marooned for six months.

When rain fell in early July 1845, Sturt decided to send some of the party home under command of James Poole who was seriously ill from scurvy, but he died the second day out, on 15 July 1845, so they returned and buried him at Mount Poole. Three days later the party left under the command of Piesse, whilst Sturt headed north until he reached a point 160 miles from the centre of Australia on 8 September 1845, but he was forced to return due to lack of water. A final journey led to the discovery of a body of water Sturt named Cooper's Creek, following which he was again forced to return to the depot, black from scurvy and near to death. Rain again fell around 7 December 1845, and Doctor John Harriss Browne, who by now had taken charge of the party, determined that they would make a desperate dash back to civilisation. Killing bullocks, to use their skins as huge, putrid, water bottles of 160 gallons each, and supplementing that with the hoped-for surface water from the recent rains, they set out for Menindie which they reached on Christmas Eve, where Piesse was waiting with fresh supplies. The party later returned to Adelaide arriving on 18 January 1846. They had been gone eighteen months, having found no fertile land and no inland sea. However, during their absence the economy of the colony had improved with the discovery of copper, and the hated Grey had gone to New Zealand and been replaced by Governor Robe.

Sturt resumed his duty as Registrar-General, and in March he became the Colonial Treasurer, on a salary of £500 per annum. On 24 May 1846, the Royal Geographical Society awarded him its Gold Medal for his epic journey to Central Australia. In May 1847 Sturt and his family departed to England on leave from which he did not return until August 1849, during which time he wrote and published the story of the 1844-46 expedition which he titled *Narrative of an Expedition into Central Australia*. Upon his return to Adelaide, Sturt was appointed Colonial Secretary at a salary of £700 per annum and happily occupied that position until 1851, when his diminishing sight forced him to retire. The family sailed for England in 1853 where they settled at Cheltenham. For the next sixteen years Sturt continued to maintain an interest in colonial affairs. Less easy to understand were his aspirations to become a Colonial Governor, since in 1851 he had been forced to retire from public service due to his failing eyesight and poor health. He applied unsuccessfully to be appointed Governor of Victoria when Hotham died in 1855.

Sturt again applied unsuccessfully, in 1858, to be appointed the first Governor of Queensland. It was on this occasion that in pressing his claim for the office, he informed Lord Stanley

My services are generally and generously acknowledged and recognized not only in the Colonies but at home and I am sure they will not be undervalued by anyone so just and generous as Your Lordship for not only do the Australian Colonies stand indebted to me for most important benefits but my country owes me the establishment of one of its fairest and most flourishing possessions and all Commercial and Social advantages resulting therefrom.

Edgar Beale highlights this letter to illustrate that in 15 years, Sturt had in his mind, graduated from being the discoverer of South Australia, to its prime founder, which claim is obviously unsustainable.

So, on the evidence before us, what is the truth of the matter? Was Captain Charles Sturt, as he claimed in 1858, the discoverer of South Australia, was he the founder of one of Her Majesty's most flourishing possessions, or was he merely a deluded fraud who sought credit for the achievement of others, which upon reflection seems a somewhat harsh assessment?

I would suggest that, on the face of it, the truth appears to be contained in Sir Archibald Grenfell Price's inaugural address to the Pioneers' Association of South Australia in 1935. In that paper he accords recognition of Charles Sturt as an early explorer of the province and one of its greatest pioneers, but he does not count him amongst its founders. The settlers who landed at Holdfast Bay in 1836, enduring intense privations, were the true founders. It was their vision of a truly free society that was ultimately to lead the world with progressive legislation and profoundly influence the events that led to the Federation of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. Nevertheless, by unlocking the riddle of the river system of the interior of Southern Australia and fixing the site of Adelaide in 1838, Captain Sturt made all that possible and it is for that that he should be remembered and honoured.

Note

This article is substantially the text of an address the author, at the time Vice President of the Charles Sturt Memorial Museum Trust, gave to the Pioneers' Association of South Australia in 2005 to mark the 175th anniversary of the arrival of Charles Sturt and his party at Lake Alexandrina.

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‘The Murray River’
from Sturt’s *Two expeditions into the interior of southern Australia, 1834.*
(Courtesy State Library of South Australia)



‘Sunset on the Murray’
from Sturt’s *Two expeditions into the interior of southern Australia, 1834.*
(Courtesy State Library of South Australia)

THE ARTIFICIAL TYRE REEFS OFF GRANGE BEACH

By Joan Ferguson

'The Gulf regions of South Australia have few natural offshore reefs and wrecks and productivity is low as only a few of these reefs are exposed enough to provide a suitable habitat and food source for fish stocks' according to K.L. Branden in 1984.

In 1970 the South Australian Department of Fisheries decided to establish an artificial reef program with two reefs being established in the gulf. The first one, made up of 15,000 tyres, was placed off Grange and a second of 25,000 tyres was placed off Glenelg. Large groups of fish, flora and fauna were attracted to both. However, a storm in 1971 scattered the tyres, destroying the reef.

In 1984 the South Australian Department of Fisheries obtained a grant from the Commonwealth Employment Program (CEP) and used this to put in seven artificial reefs. Local fishing and service clubs placed another three reefs in South Australia.

Kevin Branden is quoted in the Magazine of the Department of Fisheries and the Australian Fishing Industry Council of South Australia as saying

The productivity of the South Australian gulfs can be compared with the low productivity of a desert. The few natural reefs which exist in the reef are remnants of old shore lines formed by the transgression of the sea thousands of years ago and are located parallel to the shores at depths of 25 metres, 20 metres and 10 metres.

The Department of Fisheries officers, Kevin Branden and Malcolm Nelson, were responsible for the final design of the second tyre reef and worked with 12 people, employed under the CEP scheme, who were guaranteed 26 weeks work.

Fricker Brothers, Adelaide Brighton Cement and Quarry Industries provided the bulk of the raw materials and facilities required. Adelaide construction group, Fricker Brothers, donated a workers' lunchroom and several concrete mixers, Adelaide Brighton Cement and Quarry Industries supplied cement, sand and aggregate at half price.

Several suitable materials were available for construction of artificial habitats. Rubber tyres were chosen because they were readily available, easily handled and relatively inexpensive to assemble into units.

The final design consisted of 24 tyres to form a tetrahedron shape with a concrete base each weighed approximately 0.5 tonnes, four extra tyres were added to each apex.

The modules were constructed at the rate of 12 per day and used 70,000 tyres (1200 modules were constructed) and were placed 3½ nautical miles out from Grange Jetty in about 20 metres of water.

The motorised hopper barge, *John Sainsbury*, transported the modules to the artificial reef site off Grange on 26 July 1984. A total of 360 separate modules were loaded onto the barge which had a unique hull which allowed the modules to off-load easily.

A Harker buoy was placed to mark the site. The modules were inspected by divers to check the position.

A monitoring program was put in place to record the efficacy of their use. Two of the studies were to determine which fauna and flora were found around the reefs, and their population. They also monitored a nearby reef and sandy area for comparison.

The study found boar fish, long snout, goat fish, pike scad, yellowtail, sea dragon-common, silverbelly, southern aulacid fish, tommy ruff, trevally, King George whiting were either common or very common. Spider crabs and tube-worms were also common.

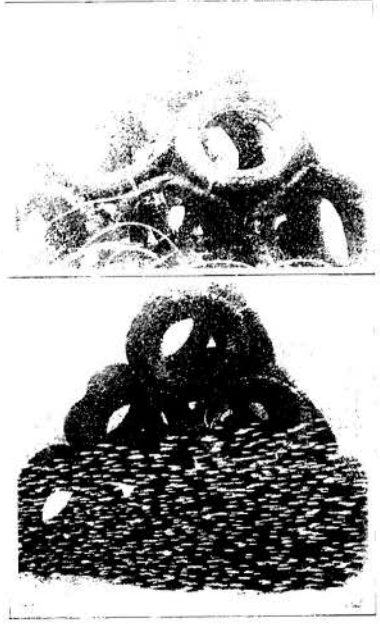
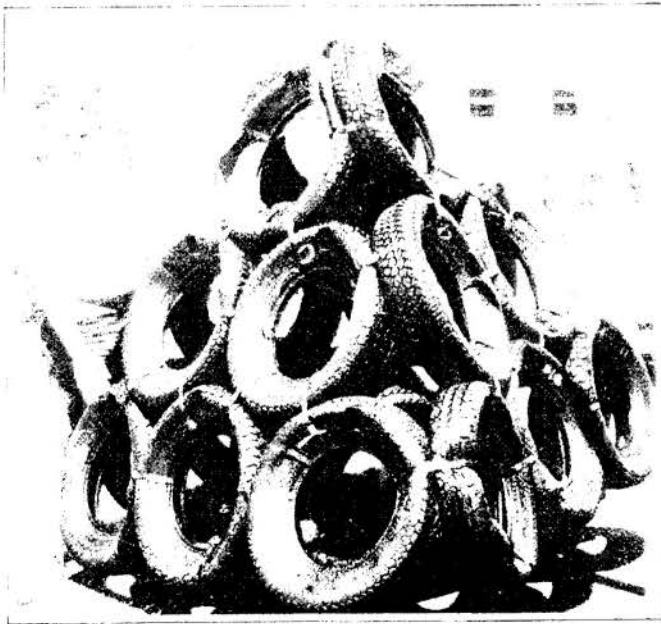
The Department of Fisheries also acquired two barges and a dredge vessel (all 40 metres in length) to place in Gulf St Vincent, but Grange only has the tetrahedron habitats (1200) and they are at latitude 34° 55' 08" longitude 138° 24' 0".

Other types of reef included steel mains pipes, old car bodies and concrete pipes.

By 1995 the recreational fisheries use of the Grange reefs had decreased by approximately 45%. It is suggested the large yellow buoys which marked their place were easy to see but over the years they were broken and not replaced, and therefore the reefs were hard to locate.

Today, with Global Positioning Systems available to fishers, the reefs should be easier to locate (GPS : 34 : 54 : 895S, 138 : 24 : 062E.)

The local dive clubs still use the Grange tyre reefs and report they are still going well.



Source

Magazine of the Department of Fisheries and the Australian Fishing Industry Council, South Australia Branch, Vol. 8 No. 3, 1984.

(Courtesy of SAFIC)

THE SCOUT ARCHIVES

By Anthony Aldous

The Scout Archives is a small section of the Scouts Australia, South Australian Branch, tasked with the collection, preservation, storage and display of Scouting records and memorabilia relating to, and collected by, Scouting people in South Australia from 1909 to present day, and the Northern Territory from c.1930s to 1989. Currently there is established in each Australian State and Territory a similar section known by a number of different names undertaking similar tasks.

The Scout Archives has been located at 19 Reddie Street, Henley Beach, since March 1998. The building was formerly occupied by the 1st Grange Scout Group from July 1959 until the end of 1996.

Building origins

The building was one of the five similar convertor stations completed in Adelaide by the Municipal Tramways Trust (MTT) after the World War Two. It would appear the building was built in 1948 and was known as Convertor Station No.12. It did not come into use until 20 October 1950, when the postwar shortage of electrical equipment had been overcome and the transformers and two 400 kilowatt mercury arc rectifiers were installed and activated. The convertor station was constructed to convert 7,600 volt AC power to MTT 600 volt DC power for use by their electric trams and buses. Only one feeder was taken from this convertor station, to the Henley Extension (or Henley North) terminus at Marlborough Street. It was also intended that the station would service the proposed Victoria Square, Hindmarsh, Findon, Kirkcaldy and Grange trolley bus route, but, because of the decreasing popularity of electric traction, this line was never built. Convertor Station 12 was closed when the Henley North line was discontinued from 2 February 1957.

During September 1994 the property, then known as the Grange Scout Hall, was entered in the State Heritage Register.

The staff

There are 23 volunteers who regularly assist in the Scout Archives. The majority of the volunteers are members of another section within the South Australian Branch, known as the Scout Social & Service Group (Retired Scouters) who cheerfully donate their time and effort, and more than 3,000 hours per annum, in carrying out numerous tasks in researching, listing and preserving the history of Scouting in South Australia. The writer, who holds a Scouting warrant known as a Branch Commissioner, leads the team; he is happy to appraise any Scouting records and memorabilia offered as donations.

The collection

The records and memorabilia have grown significantly since 1999 after the building was fitted out to store the Collection. There are three main sources of material collected by the Scout Archives: The South Australian Branch Headquarters (55%), individuals (25%) and Scout Groups (20%). All material is donated. The material is given a series identifying number and then is listed on a spreadsheet describing the item and, where possible, including a date and title. Again where possible records are enveloped and metal staples, pins, binders and clips are removed and replaced by acid-free fastening or cloth tape. Large or bulky items such as clothing, reference books, magazines, shields, trophies, badge blankets, flags, charts, paintings and framed photographs are removed from a donation and listed separately but cross referenced back to an individual, Group or Branch Headquarters.

There are over 1,600 boxes of records and memorabilia that have so far been catalogued. It is estimated the boxes contain nearly 50,000 items. Some 400 boxes remain to be sorted and listed.

Given the growth of the Scout Archives over the past ten years and the building reaching full capacity, research is underway to best determine how many of the various formats of records and memorabilia can be best stored and preserved. The Scout Archives is undertaking a number of projects to free up valuable storage space. These projects include the scanning of over 5,000 newspaper items, the conversion of 35mm slides to electronic images, scanning of several thousand photographs to electronic images, reduction in the number of copies held of reference books and magazines and the conversion of 8mm and 18mm film and video to electronic format.

The Scout Archives is fortunate in having the early correspondence of the start of Scouting in South Australia and has hosted a number of research projects using this correspondence over the years, including the publication *Beginnings, the story of the Beltana Boys* by team members Richard Mansfield and Anthony Aldous.

The Scout Archives houses a significant collection of badges, neckerchiefs (scarves), belts, whistles, spoons, uniforms, tea towels, hats, reference books, magazines, photographs and flags which are on permanent display.

Opening times

The building is open to the public most first, third and fifth Saturdays of the month from 1.00 to 4.00 pm, and by arrangement on Wednesdays and the second and fourth Saturdays at the above times, as well as History Week in May of each year. Due to the storage and display of records and memorabilia there is a lack of space for large groups to visit and view the material on display. Small groups of up to 15 people are encouraged to visit and receive a guided tour of the facility.

Milestones

During the past three years the Scout Archives has participated in a number of centenary events relating to Scouting: 2007 The Centenary of World Scouting, 2008 The Centenary of Australian Scouting and 2009 The Centenary of Scouting in South Australia, when a formal State structure was implemented.

Only two Scouting Groups have survived one hundred years of continuous operations, they being 1st Semaphore and 2nd Adelaide. Many other Scout Groups, including 1st Grange which started in 1909, have over the years ceased to exist.

Support

The Scout Archives is indebted to Scout Headquarters who provide an annual grant to assist the Section in promoting Scouting in South Australia through open days, mounting of displays and research on a large range of topics. The grant is also used for repairs and maintenance of the State Heritage listed building.



1st Semaphore Scouts.
Adelaide Railway Station on way to Centenary Corroboree at Belair National Park.
1936.
(Courtesy Scout Archives)

