



ALEXANDRINA LIBRARY SERVICES

HISTORY ROOM

NEWS

No 24

by Dawn Juers

It seems hard to believe that we have published this newsletter for 2 years and it is emailed to 60 recipients and snail-mailed to 10. I hope that you are gaining some pleasure from our effort.

New Books in the History Room:

'Paddlesteamers of the Murray River' by Kit Bennett

'Murray Darling Paddleboats' by Peter Plowman (I found this particularly interesting with colour photos of some of the lesser known boats.)

'The National Trust Research Manual – Trace the History of Your House or Other Places' by Celestina Sagazio.

New Websites:

Graham Jaunay (Adelaide Proformat) is proposing to have an email newsletter. To subscribe to this go to Newsletter@jaunay.com

Australia's Virtual Immigration Wall of Honour www.janetreakesgenealogy.com

Researching NZ www.genealogy.org.nz/resources/researchnz.html

Researching Scandinavia www.jspl.com.au/scangen.html

Researching Scotland www.scotsgenealogy.com or www.scotsorigins.com

The South Australian Genealogist reports in its May journal that, because the SA Genealogy & Heraldry Society and the Yorke Peninsula Family History Group had microfilmed the records of the Wallaroo Primary School, which had such a devastating fire recently, they were able to provide copies of the original records back to the school. This is heartwarming to hear, and proves that the sharing of our own and public records is advisable. I have given my daughter a CD copy of my own on-going family history as a precaution for such a tragedy. It would not replace all the hard copy notes etc but at least not all would be lost.

Kevin Bowden has written an informative article on 'Searching A Database Using Wildcards' in the above magazine (page 16), which is available in our History Room.

A pedestrian bridge is to be built across Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra to honour the migrants who settled in Australia. You can have your ancestor's name engraved on the stainless steel handrail of the bridge. Go to www.immigrationbridge.com.au/

Don't forget **Census** night is less than a month away. I remind you that when you come to Question 60 'Does each person in this household agree to his/her name and address and other information on this form being kept by the NAA and then made publicly available after 99yrs' please tick "yes". If it is ignored it will be treated as a "no". Our history matters and it's not going to be sensitive information in 99 years.



This postcard was donated to our collection and we think it was probably printed in the late 1800's showing the paddlesteamers 'Victor' and 'Tolarno'.

The '**Victor**' built 1877 by A. Graham, Goolwa for Wm Barber & Mr McDougal. *The Register* 9 February 1877 said the vessel was launched by Miss Elizabeth Barber, and that the boiler had been made by the Goolwa Foundry; the shipwright was Mr Lawrence. In 1907 it was owned by Eudunda Farmers Co-op Society Ltd, probably as a travelling store.

The '**Tolarno**' was built in 1879 by Andrew Willcock, Goolwa. *The Register* 29 May 1880 said she arrived at Morgan 27 May from Bourke NSW in 8 days, making the trip of nearly 2000 miles in the fastest time yet. It was sold for scrap in 1939.

Source- Ships of the Inland Rivers by Ronald Parsons.

On Wednesday 12th July at the 'Friends of the Library' AGM luncheon, Margaret Ford gave an interesting talk, with a digital photographic display, of her grandfather Richard Ford's 1925 historic crossing of Australia from Adelaide to Darwin and back, with fellow travellers Eardley Forrester and George Hearn. This adventure, a journey of 8800kilometres in an elegant 19.6hp Crossley car, mostly on unmade roads and sandhills, followed the Ghan railway line, the Overland Telegraph Line, and driving on an existing railway line. These pioneers took 8 weeks to complete the journey.

In 2005 Margaret, her husband Terry Feckner, and other descendants re-enacted the journey which took them 6 weeks to complete.

[Margaret wrote an article on this historic crossing in the Nov 2005 *History Matters* the journal of the History Trust of SA].

What's On:

The State Library SA is once again holding Family History lectures (mostly free), in early August, so if you're interested, their website is www.slsa.sa.gov.au and phone no is 8207 7269.

National Trust of SA, Goolwa Branch, next meeting – Wednesday 9 August, will be a talk on 'Old Goolwa Police Station & Morgue' at 2pm, to be held in the Museum Meeting Hall.

Did You Know?

There is only one word in the English language, which has three sets of double letters in a row, not separated by other letters..... It's **bookkeeping!**

[*Sunday Mail* 19/3/06]

Genealogy help is available by appointment on Thursdays, to guide you through your research. Please phone the Library on 8555-7000 to make an appointment.

For comments, suggestions or to receive this newsletter – email historyroom2004@yahoo.com.au or phone me, Dawn Juers on 8555-2885.