



ALEXANDRINA LIBRARY SERVICES

# HISTORY ROOM

NEWS

No 26

by Dawn Juers

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Well here we are – September and Spring! A little rain but I must admit I do enjoy the warmer days.

## VIRTUE HARRIET LANE

Recently one of our oldest residents passed away. Virtue Harriet Lane had lived in Goolwa for approximately fortythree years and on 11th August 2006 she died at the grand age of 101yrs 7months.

Virtue was the daughter of Frank & Elizabeth Ann HAILSTONE nee Harris and was born 20<sup>th</sup> January 1905 in Willunga and spent much of her childhood in Nangkita. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1928 Virtue married in the Methodist Church Payneham to Edmund Joseph, the son of Wm Edmund LANE.

Virtue had one son, 5 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 10 great great-grandchildren. Along with her family, cricket was always a great love, with the first game played at Nangkita taking place in one of the paddocks of her parent's property. On the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in January 2005, Alexandrina Mayor Kym McHugh presented Virtue with her congratulatory letter from the Queen. Virtue was buried in the Centennial Park Cemetery on 16th Aug 2006.

Printed with the kind permission of her family.

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What is Onomastics? Thomas Liebecke in an article in *Placenames Australia Newsletter* writes that he studied Onomastics – the word for science of names – at the University of Leipzig and is now teaching German in Malaysia.

Dymphna Lonergan of Flinders University, has written an interesting article about 'little Dublin' on the outskirts of Mt Barker (a copy of the newsletter is in the History Room). If you would like to receive a free copy of this interesting publication email:

[Flavia.Hodges@humn.mq.edu.au](mailto:Flavia.Hodges@humn.mq.edu.au)

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On September 29 (Police Remembrance Day) the National Police Memorial will be dedicated in Canberra. This long awaited monument will honour Australian police officers killed in the line of duty. The 2m high bronze wall will feature cast bronze "touchstone" plaques which will be inscribed with an officer's name, rank and date of death.

The August 2006 edition of *Police Journal* has a brief story on each SA policeman to be honoured.

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Copies of SA Birth, Death & Marriage certificates now cost \$35.25. They are the most expensive certificates in Australia! (and not value for money either)

In the February 'History Room News' I wrote that the fight to save the historic ship *City of Adelaide* (otherwise known as the *Carrick*) had been lost. Now a property tycoon wants to save the vessel and is prepared to take on the massive project to restore it and transform it into a top tourist attraction in Scotland.

*Printed with permission from Rampant Scotland Newsletter*

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Bob Williams, a volunteer with the National Trust Goolwa, has kindly donated a copy of his book 'Residents of Goolwa up to 1900' to the History Room. Thanks Bob!

A new addition to the History Room shelves is '*Easy Family History-The National Archives*' by David Annal.

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#### **Websites:**

Manor Park Cemetery in East London is preparing to sell 1,000 graves with headstones. If surviving owners do not object the purchasers will be able to re-use the original headstone by removing the names of the dead and adding new inscriptions! (Recycling gone mad!!) You can read all about it at <http://tinyurl.com/env4y>

Here's another good website which translates as you type <http://ajax.parish.ath.cx/translator/>  
A new site where you can enter your ancestor's name and address [www.Homesreuniteduk.co.uk](http://www.Homesreuniteduk.co.uk)  
ANMM Seafaring Ancestors [www.anmm.gov.au/LIB/ancestr.htm](http://www.anmm.gov.au/LIB/ancestr.htm)  
Down nostalgia lane, pictures from old books <http://www.fromoldbooks.org/>

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We spend the first half of our lives  
Trying to understand the older generation  
And the second half the younger generation

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#### **The Crimes of Malachi Martin**

On Wednesday (13<sup>th</sup> September) the Friends of the Goolwa Library held a luncheon at the Goolwa Hotel. Vivienne Causby (a member of Committee for many years) gave an interesting talk on the 'Crimes of Malachi Martin'.

Malachi's life of crime began in April 1844 when as a teenager he stole half a crown and a piece of ribbon from the Yilki Post Office. He was tried in Adelaide and found not guilty. Years later he was described as 'stern, dark, stout, black whiskered and unprepossessing. He became friendly with William Robinson and his wife Catherine (Nellie) who ran Salt Creek inn. Some time later William's body was found with his throat cut. Martin was a suspect but never charged. He went interstate for a couple of years and on his return married Mrs Robinson 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1858.

Around that time a woman Jane Macmanamin came to work for Catherine. In 1862 she was missing with the Martin's saying she had gone to the South East, but her sister who had previously corresponded regularly with Jane, sent a letter to the police, saying that she was worried that she had not heard from her. In May of that year Jane's body was found half concealed in a wombat hole at Salt Creek.

3 June 1862 Lance Corporal Rollison sent a telegram to Commissioner of Police that Malachi Martin had been charged with the murder of Jane. A man called William Wilsen was charged with being an accessory after the fact. The trial was held before Chief Justice Hanson and a jury, which took 55 minutes to return a verdict.

After an unsuccessful appeal Malachi Martin was hanged 24<sup>th</sup> December 1862 in the Adelaide Gaol. (He was the first to be hung in the grounds of the Gaol).

Wilsen received four years hard labour and was sent to Tasmania.

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I am off on holidays for the month of October so your next newsletter will be edited by Frodo.

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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](mailto:historyroom2004@yahoo.com.au) or phone me, Dawn Juers on 8555-2885.

Back copies of this newsletter can be sourced on the Alexandrina Council website - <http://www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/site/page/cfm> then Library – Local Family History Room.

Happy Researching, Dawn

**September 2006**