



ALEXANDRINA LIBRARY SERVICES

HISTORY ROOM

NEWS

July 2007

by Dawn Juers

No 36

Thank you for the feedback on issue No 35, on our visit to Yorke Peninsula and Wentworth. Since then we have returned from a bus tour along the Strzelecki Track to Innamincka, following some of the journey taken by Burke and Wills and visiting their grave sites.

Last month I mentioned the 100th Birthday of the P.S. *Ruby*. Since then the Wentworth Historical Society have sent their newsletter '*Historical Rambling*' all about this event which took place on 7-8th July. For those interested in the *Ruby*, the newsletter is on the shelves in the History Room.

Next year will be the centenary of our own local paddle steamer the *Oscar W*, built by Franz Oscar Wallin (commonly known as Charlie Wallin) in 1908 at Echuca. After a few owners it was purchased by Alexandrina Council and is moored at the Goolwa Wharf. A trip is planned to Echuca in August 2008 with a celebratory send-off from Goolwa, the return trip is to enable celebrations to be held at a number of towns then arriving back in Goolwa to co-incide with the "Goolwa Alive Festival" held the Sunday of the long weekend of October 2008.

For those interested in the forthcoming celebrations or to be put on the mailing list contact Geoff Braddock, c/- Post Office, Clayton 5256 or email broadoak@activ8.net.au

In the issue last month I appealed for information on '**Walwa**' a railway carriage a sketch of which appeared in the book '**Historical Highlights-Encounter Bay and Goolwa**'. Well as usual the response from the locals was wonderful, and I can report that '**Walwa**' was placed on a barge on the river bank near where the ferry operated, and alongside the 'Invincible'. It became derelict and after the local council complained, the owner towed it to the middle of the river and set fire to it. Some of its history is that it was built in 1886 as a sleeping car on the Intercontinental Express (Adelaide to Melbourne). Named Broughton and de-commissioned, it became the Vice Regal carriage after 1908, and used as such until c1936.

(with thanks to Anthony Presgrave, Val Lawrence and Bob Williams)

New Books in the History Room –

The mission paddle steamer Etona – Maurice Fenton

Cruising from Goolwa – David Brook

Ancestral streams: notes from the Murray Valley

Poor man river – Alistair Wood

SA Registration Districts of Births, deaths & marriages – Beryl E. Schahinger

Jenners of the Clare Valley – the story of Thomas Jenner his ancestors & descendants.

I have been advised by the Melbourne PAF Users Group (Personal Ancestral File) that they are the only PAF Users Group in Australia and are willing to assist people who have a problem with it. Meetings are free and membership is \$7p.a. to receive the quarterly newsletter by email or \$12p.a. by snailmail. They can be contacted at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mpug/welcome.htm>

After a query re Queensland BDM's the State Library of SA advises that they have a great site for family historians – just go to their website and click on Family Historians under the Quick Links on the left <http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au>
They are also holding more of their Family History courses – details online at <http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au> and go to 'What's On'.
National Family History week is 6-11th August and the State Library is holding events each day. For details go to the above website. A list is also on the notice board in the History Room.

RULES FOR CLERICAL STAFF

1. Godliness, cleanliness and punctuality are the necessities of a good business.
2. On the recommendation of the Governor of this Colony this firm has reduced the hours and the clerical staff will now have to be present between the hours of 7.00am and 6.00pm on weekdays. The Sabbath is for worship but any other man of war or other vessel victualling the clerical staff will work on the Sabbath.
3. Daily prayers will be held each morning in the main office. The clerical staff will be present.
4. Clothing must be of a sober nature. The clerical staff will not disport themselves in raiments of bright colours nor will they wear hose unless in good repair.
5. Overshoes and topcoats may not be worn in the office, but neck scarves and head wear may be worn in inclement weather.
6. A stove is provided for the benefit of clerical staff. Coal and wood must be kept in the locker. It is recommended that each member of the clerical staff bring 4lbs of coal each day during the cold weather.
7. Any member of the clerical staff may not leave the room without the permission of Mr. Ryder. Calls of nature are permitted and the clerical staff may use the garden below the second gate. This area must be kept in good order.
8. No talking is allowed during business hours.
9. The craving for tobacco, wines and spirits is a human weakness and as such, is forbidden to all members of the clerical staff.
10. Now that the hours of business have been so drastically reduced, the partaking of food is held between 11.30am and noon but work will not on any account cease.
11. Members of the clerical staff will provide their own pens. A new sharpener is available on application to Mr Ryder.
12. Mr Ryder will nominate a senior clerk to be responsible for the cleanliness of the main office and the private office. All the boys and juniors will report to him 40mins before prayers and will remain after closing hours for similar work. Brushes, brooms, scrubbers and soap are provided by the owners.
13. The new increased weekly wages are as hereunder details-

Junior boys to 11yrs	1/4d
Boys to 14yrs	2/1d
Juniors	4/8d
Junior Clerks	8/7d
Clerks	10/9d
Senior Clerks after 15yrs service	21/-

The owners hereby recognise the generosity of the new labour laws but would expect a great rise in output of work to compensate for these utopian conditions. (Signed J. Ryder Esq. 1/3/1852). *(from the W.A.Pretty Collection)*

*Happy researching,
Dawn*

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