



# HISTORY ROOM

## NEWS



May 2017

No 154

by Dawn Juers



In last month's issue (No 153) I wrote " *On May 9<sup>th</sup> 1986, during the South Australian Jubilee 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations the Library held an Open Day with authors.....*"

We have now been given a photo of the authors present L-R John Tolley, Colin Thiele, Bill Reschke, Ron Baker with Robert Broad (senior Director of the Institute Assoc. who was in charge of closing the old system of Institute libraries). Thank you to the person who forwarded the information.

Congratulations to the organisers of the Wooden Boat Festival which was held last month –April 22-23. It was a perfect day and the crowd certainly enjoyed the festival.

This month is ' South Australia's History Month' and there is a host of events you can attend in your local district and further afield.

### **Alexandrina Library has organised three events –**

4<sup>th</sup> May - An Introduction to Family History to be held in the Goolwa Council Chambers.

11<sup>th</sup> May – A Journey into a Slice of Antarctic History at the Strathalbyn Library

31<sup>st</sup> May – The Curious History of Currency Creek at the Currency Creek Hall.

Bookings are essential for these programs on 8555 7000.

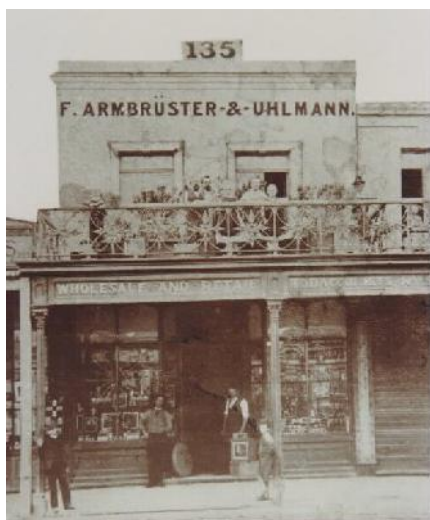
10<sup>th</sup> May - Currency Creek Cemetery Advisory Committee have organised "Stories Behind the Headstones" a guided tour. To book for this event contact Danae Cates on 8555 7043.

Also as mentioned last month the 10<sup>th</sup> Cittaslow International General Assembly will be held in Goolwa from 9-12<sup>th</sup> May. It will be a very busy time in Goolwa and for those organising these events.

This being History Month I thought this little story may be appropriate. It is not Goolwa history exactly but SA History.

This is the story of ARMBRUSTER , UHLMANN, & BURING – Tobacconists Adelaide. My interest in the story is that Johann Frederick Martin ARMBRUSTER married my Grandfather's sister, Emma Richardson nee Esselbach. They were both widowed and married 11<sup>th</sup> January 1893.

Fred, as he was known arrived in the Colony c1851 and like many others mistakenly thought he could make his fortune in the Victorian goldfields. By 1855 he was back in SA and entered the tobacco trade which he had learned in Hamburg, Germany. In 1857 Mr H.C. Ulmann joined Fred, the business then becoming F. ARMBRUSTER & ULMANN. In 1878 Rudolph Buring was admitted to the partnership after working for the firm for 20years. After Armbruster's death in 1897 Buring became the sole proprietor of the business. They had shops in Grenfell, King William & Rundle streets.



Rundle St looking east (1912) Grand Central Hotel on right.

Some people may remember the three-quarter life size statue that sat astride a cane chair in the window of their Rundle Street shop, and was a feature of their shops from the time it was purchased in 1859 until c1969. A descendant of Mr Buring said that from time to time the statue got them into trouble with local constabulary, who would mistake him for a burglar when doing their rounds. 'He' was once "arrested" when he had been moved under the shop's stairs during renovations. A burglar alarm went off, and a sergeant searching the premises spotted a shoe poking out under a dustsheet. The long arm of the law slapped down on the "boy's" shoulder as the miscreant was apprehended!

Whenever 'he' was taken out of the shop window for repairs, a sign would go up saying "Gone Fishing"



[I believe the statue is still looking out the window of the Adelaide Archives, Topham Mall, Waymouth St, Adelaide.

## Happy Researching

Help is available in the History Room when a volunteer is on duty. If you are travelling some distance it may be advisable to phone the Library on 8555-7000 to ascertain whether a volunteer is available.

For comments, suggestions or to receive this newsletter email - [history.goolwa1@gmail.com](mailto:history.goolwa1@gmail.com)

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