



## The A.N.D.F.H.G. News sheet.

Issue 3.

March 2009.



### THE COMMITTEE WORKING FOR YOU...

<b>President:</b>	Peter Applebee
<b>Vice President:</b>	Colin Withall
<b>Secretary:</b>	Margaret Flaiban
<b>Treasurer / Membership:</b>	Helen Stein
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Colin Withall
<b>Fundraising Officer:</b>	Tammy Martin
<b>Publicity Officer:</b>	Barb Such
<b>General Committee:</b>	Bev Burke Ivan Randall John Clift



### This Months News from the Editor

The month of February has again been eventful with new members continuing to swell our ranks, the word is spreading that ANDFHG is dedicated to guide and educate anyone interested in researching their family history.

Thursday's our mid week open days are becoming well patronised, although the hot weather has had some effect on the attendances over the last week or so, but even so, the numbers of attendees has increased dramatically, and keeping the hosts Ivan and Margaret busy, we hope this trend continues.

Our new Quarterly "The Compass" Journal is well into publication and will be available from March 10, keep a look out for this in your email inbox. We hope that this first edition will prove to be popular amongst the membership, and we would appreciate your feedback either way, it is only from your response that we can gauge your interests, helping us thereby to formulate a more interesting and informative Journal.

Much has been written about the UK 1911 Census being available on line, we have an in-depth article on the website appearing in "The Compass", and is well worth reading before rushing out to start researching the Census, be warned it can prove to be a costly affair. We

therefore recommend that you hold off until you have read the review.

On Friday 13th February, I attended the funeral of our late member **Anne Whitehead**. Whilst it was a solemn occasion, the service itself had been orchestrated solely by Anne herself and was a magnificent demonstration of planning ones own farewell.

**Margaret Flaiban** will be out of action for some time, having fallen down stairs and broke her elbow, and suffered other injuries. We wish her all the best for a speedy recovery, I am sure that all the members feel the same. We look forward in having her back in the saddle again in the research rooms on Thursdays, her presence is sorely missed.

A very Special congratulatory mention to **David Jefferys**, who celebrated his **80th birthday** on February 27, may you enjoy many more David.

The winner of our latest Raffle on February 19 was Tom **Clayton**. Congratulations, we hope you enjoyed your prize.

I have particularly noticed that many of our lady members are acting as devoted hosts on our talk nights, helping in preparing supper, and even helping to move back chairs and more.

To these Ladies we send a special thank you, your actions are very much appreciated,



## *A word from the President.*

We have now catalogued the microfilms of our collection of South Australian Newspapers; there are 388 films in total. Tammy Martin, our Librarian plans on going through each film and extracting all the Births, Marriages and Deaths notices appearing in each publication.

The task is going to be long and intensive one. Once that has been done, a CD or DVD could be created and these will be later available for sale from our clubrooms.

The newspapers concerned are The Observer 1843-1931, The Register 1901-1931 and the South Australian 1839-1851 and Government Gazettes 1845-1852.

We are still looking for a lockable cupboard or bookshelf of suitable proportions preferably with doors that could be locked, so the collection can be housed and secured.

Should anyone know of one being available, we would be happy to purchase it as long as the price is right.

We have also had donations of several more Books and Magazines for our library, one of which is a copy of "*The History of*

*Gawler*," this very much sort after book is a second edition published in the early 1900's.

The Cemetery Committee are formulating the next Cemetery Tour, and this will be announced very shortly. If you have never been on one of our walk tours, take the opportunity to join us, these have proven to be very popular and are not what most people imagine them to be, they are historical in nature, and an afternoon BBQ or lunch is provided. So keep this in mind, and do participate, I am sure you will enjoy the day.

Our Talk nights are as usual proving to be very popular with members; many casual visitors have now taken out ANDFHG membership after attending these nights. I am aware that some members cannot get out at night, but we will continue with a précis of the talk appearing in the following month's News Letter, so at least all members can read about the subject.

On Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> March, we have as our special Speaker will be Marie Maddocks, who will give a talk on Researching England. Marie is a very competent speaker and knows her subject very well, if you can make it I urge you to come along at 7pm.



The Clipper Ship "*City of Adelaide*"

## A Précis of the Talk given by Pam Whittle. Thursday 19 February 2009

Pam is the great grand daughter of the part owner and first captain of the ship.

Back in 1962 her daughter (then at school) asked Pam if she had anything old that she could take to school for a project talk. Pam did not have many things of the type that her daughter was asking about, but Pam's mother was present at

the time and mentioned an old picture of a Clipper Sailing Ship called the "City of Adelaide" which hung on the wall in her home.

One day Pam decided to visit her mother, and found her in the garden burning something in the incinerator, when asked what she was burning, replied just some old stuff from grandfather. Pam

was horrified, fortunately Pam's husband was present, and he grabbed some of the items from the fire, among them was a leather folder, and when opened found to contained many papers of her great grandfather such as indenture papers, Certificate of Competency as Ships Master dated 1872, and many more priceless personal documents.

The 1864 clipper ship *City of Adelaide* is the oldest surviving clipper ship in the world being five years older than the *Cutty Sark*. The *City of Adelaide* is the only surviving sailing ship that gave regular passenger and cargo service between Europe and Australia, and one of only two surviving composite clipper ships in the world - the other being the *Cutty Sark*.

The *City of Adelaide* built by William Pile, Hay and company of Sutherland Scotland and launched in 1864. For 23 years, the *City of Adelaide* brought large numbers of British and German migrants to the fledgling colony of South Australia. It is claimed that today approximately a quarter of a million South Australians, or one in five, can trace an ancestor that migrated, or was a passenger, on the *City of Adelaide*.

The ship was impressive being 244 feet or 74.4 metres in length; she is longer than a 747 Jumbo Jet aeroplane, which is 231 feet or 70.4 metres in length.

The first Captain and part owner was David Bruce, and his first officer was his son John Bruce, who later became Captain in 1867. His other son Alexander also became Captain of the *City of Adelaide*. Both men served with their father David as apprenticed seamen, and only aged 10 years old when they first went to sea.

### **The fate of the City of Adelaide**

In 1887, the ship was sold for use as a bulk carrier of cargo, first as a coaler from the Tyne to Dover.

In 1889, she was once again sold to T. Dixon & Son, of Belfast, Ireland who re-rigged her as a barque and sailed between England and America carrying timber, under the Captaincy of Captain J. McMurtry.

In 1893, The Southampton Corporation bought her for £1,750 to serve as a floating hospital in Southampton.

Later in 1923, she was once more sold, to the British Admiralty for £2,500 and re-named HMS Carrick. They moved her to the Firth of Clyde and converted her into a training ship for the Clyde division of the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve (R.N.V.R.)

In 1949, she was moved to Greenock, there she commissioned as a Navy Drill Ship. When it was deemed that the ship was past her usefulness in this situation, the Admiralty presented her to the R.N.V.R. Club of Scotland, who used her as a meeting room/club room for some time.

In 1956 the ship was moved to Glasgow where she was used by the local sailing club as clubrooms

In 1982, Pam explained that she visited England, and went to view the *City of Adelaide* because of her family connections with the ship. She was not allowed on board at that time because "*women were not allowed aboard a docked ship*" however once it was explained that

she was the great grand daughter of its owner and first Captain, she was allowed to aboard, and for the first time saw the remains of what once was a proud ship. Apparently, Pam is the only woman ever to set foot on the deck of the ship, apart from those passengers of long ago.

In 1989, a cleaner noticed water leaking in the ship, but before long the leak became worse and eventually in 1990, she sank at her moorings located on the River Clyde in Scotland. She was raised and towed to be dry docked in Glasgow the cost of raising being from donations of £80 from members of the R.N.V.R. Club.

In 1990, after nearly 70 years in the employ of the Admiralty, the R.N.V.R. the Sailing Club sold her to the Clyde Ship Trust for £1. At this time, she was still at Glasgow Customs House Quay.

1992 saw the *City of Adelaide* identified as part of the Historical Ships Core Collection with a class "A" heritage listing. She was then the only 19th Century sailing ship still capable of being afloat. She then became the property of the Scottish National Maritime Museum. After the Clyde Ship Trust was dissolved, the Museum undertook to make restorations to the *City of Adelaide*, and moved her to her present location, a slipway at Irvine, Scotland. Over the next few years, some restoration work was carried out.

Now there is a desperate fight to save her from destruction because of the lack of funds to maintain the restoration program.

In 2000 the Trustees of the Scottish Maritime Museum applied to the North Ayrshire Council to have her 'A' class heritage listing removed to allow them to demolish her, because the cost of keeping her in dry dock has proved to be too expensive about £50,000 per year.

The chairman of the Scottish Museum reported that the cost of restoration of the ship would cost around £10 million and that the Museum could not afford to take on such an expensive project.

A support group the "*City of Adelaide action group*" was set up in Adelaide with a view to obtaining the ship and returning it to South Australia for restoration. This group includes Pam Whittle the great-granddaughter of the first master, and the great-grandson of an 1874 passenger, as well as others who ardently believe that this part of our heritage should be preserved at all cost.

The *Cutty Sark* is dry docked at Greenwich, but in 2007, she caught fire when undergoing some extensive restoration. Whilst the fate of the *City of Adelaide* is in the balance, approaches to both the Federal and South Australian Governments, to purchase and bring the ship back to Adelaide, where she could be restored, and promoted as a tourist attraction. However to date this plan has met with little response from either governments. The costs of shipping her to Adelaide and the restoration project would be in the many millions of dollars, and in reality would prove to be an impossible task to raise the amount of money from public donation.

For more information, the group has also created a website at [www.cityofadelaide.org.au](http://www.cityofadelaide.org.au). Moreover, is well worth a visit to learn more about this iconic ship, which bears the name and carries on its stern proudly the Coat of Arms of our City ♦



ON THE CALENDAR - March 2009

THURSDAY	5	March.	<i>Midweek Open Day. (Margaret Flaiban &amp; Ivan Randall) Host Research Assistants.</i>	10.00am. to 4.00pm
THURSDAY	12	March.	<i>Midweek Open Day. (Margaret Flaiban &amp; Ivan Randall) Host Research Assistants.</i>	10.00am. to 4.00pm
SATURDAY	14	March.	<i>Research and Networking Day. (All Committee Members available)</i>	1.00pm. to 4.00pm
THURSDAY	14	March.	<i>Midweek Open Day. (Margaret Flaiban &amp; Ivan Randall) Host Research Assistants</i>	10.00am to 4.00pm
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>March.</b>	<b><i>Guest Speaker Night. Presenting Marie Maddocks "Researching England."</i></b>	<b>7.00pm to ---</b>
THURSDAY	26	March.	<i>Midweek Open Day. (Margaret Flaiban &amp; Ivan Randall) Host Research Assistants</i>	10.00am to 4.00pm
SATURDAY	28	March.	<i>Research and Networking Day (Committee Members available to Assist in Research) 3rd Meeting of UK Interest Group. (Barbara Such Coordinator)</i>	1.00pm to 4.00pm
THURSDAY	2	April.	<i>Midweek Open Day. (Margaret Flaiban &amp; Ivan Randall) Host Research Assistants</i>	10.00am to 4.00pm



Vale

Marguerite Anne  
Whitehead:

9 February 2009.

It is with sadness, that once again we saw the passing of one of our members. Anne, as she was known to her friends, passed suddenly on Monday the 9th February, after suffering from a long debilitating illness. Many may not have known her personally, but may have encountered her at our meeting rooms over the years; Anne was the lady with the oxygen bottle. She was a devoted Family Historian and researcher into the history of the Burra Mining Community.

Anne was active in attending gymnasium, and was still sending this Editor email as late as the 2nd February, recommending Family History websites that she found of interest enough, to be included in The News Sheet.

To her family and friends, and on behalf of all members, we offer our deepest condolences.

# Our Birthday List



Bright and happy faces greet you;  
True and faithful friends be near;  
-All the dearly loved ones meet you-  
Joining in your birthday cheer.

*On behalf of all Members, the Committee extends  
Congratulations and Best Wishes to the following members  
who are celebrating their Birthday during this period.*

## March



16th	James	HOOD.
21st	Janice	EVERETT.
26th	Colin	WITHALL.
30th	Colin	HAMILTON.

## April



4th	John	CLIFT.
6th	Sandie	FRANCIS.
11th	Peter	LUNN.

*Happy Birthday, May you all enjoy many more.*