



Newsletter #13
August 2007

Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group

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Meetings are held on the third Thursday
of each month at 7pm at
The Old Police Station, 3 Ann Street, Salisbury.

\$2 entry fee for non-members

YOUR COMMITTEE

President:	Peter Applebee
Vice President:	Bev Burke
Secretary:	Margaret Flaiban
Treasurer:	Tammy Martin
Membership Coordinator:	Helen Stein
General Committee:	Sandie Francis
	Colin Withall
	Ivan Randall

RAFFLE

At our A.G.M., we had huge interest when we raffled off a bowl full of chocolate bars – a record amount of money was raised! Congratulations to Alan Roberts who, I'm sure, will enjoy his calories! Thank you to all who supported us.

MEETINGS

At tonight's meeting, Colin Withall will be giving us a talk about using old wills in your research. If you are fortunate enough to get your research back to medieval times, all you quite often have as a resource are Wills and Church records. Colin will try and shed some light on reading Old Wills, specifically.

*** If you would like a lift to a meeting please call Margaret on 8281 8431 or Bert on 8254 7950***

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Barbara Such, Anne and David Wyatt, and Gaynor Williams to our group as a new members.

*The group will not be held responsible for any statements or opinions expressed in this Newsletter.
All submitted articles and advertised offers of services are printed in good faith of accuracy.
The Editor reserves the right to edit articles for grammatical purposes if necessary.*

A.G.M.

Our first Annual General Meeting, which was held on 19th July, was a resounding success. Well over 20 of our members and several guests braved the cold, and came to have their say and vote in the new Committee for the new financial year.

Colin Withall kindly opened and presided over the Meeting. He began by asking the Committee to officially stand down. He called upon Pete Applebee to give a short speech who outlined our achievements during the first year as a Group.

The financial statement from our auditor was presented, and we now have over \$1,300 in our account, raised mostly from our speaker evenings, raffles and our successful Cemetery Tour from earlier this year.

Following the voting, there were very few changes to the committee as all official positions were maintained by the same members as last year. Two new General Committee members were elected, and we welcome Colin Withall and Ivan Randall to replace Jacqueline Dennis who left us during the year. They will be a great asset to our Committee.

Our aim for the new year is to open our doors for general research, and encourage members to use our facilities which now include 4 computers, printers, and a large collection of CD's covering Australia, British Isles, Europe and America. Due to telecommunication issues, the internet is not available at this stage, but we hope to be connected in the not too distant future.

We would like to thank all members and friends who have supported us in this, our first year, and hope that our Group will continue to grow and prosper in the coming years.

What started as an idea has come to fruition!

After our first full year, our budding group now boasts 43 memberships!

Thank you all for helping make our group a success!

APOLOGY

ERROR IN LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

CORRECTION to my article on St Augustine's Cemetery, Salisbury,
published July 2007.

Para 5. Susan AICKEN married Patrick Joseph, son of Martin SPAIN.

Maureen M Leadbeater

OPEN DAY

12th August 2007

What a great start to our Open Days for public research!

After seeing the adverts in the Messenger Press and also by word of mouth, we enticed six new people through the doors, one of which has now become member of our group! A few of our regular members turned up also. Our rooms were a hive of activity for quite a while, with 3 people on computers and committee members with laptops, all helping and sharing information. Hopefully, we may have interested a few people to return in the future.

A big thank you to Tammy and Helen for providing refreshments and afternoon tea for everyone.

We intend to have more frequent open days, the next being planned for the 16th September, from 1pm to 4pm.

DONATIONS

A big THANK YOU to Gil Stevens for donating a computer monitor to the Group and to Ray Hicks for his kind donation of microfiche of Victorian Immigration Records.

These items are very welcome indeed.

Thank you both.



"AFTER HE LEFT, I LOOKED UP HIS FAMILY TREE.
IT WAS FULL OF NUTS."

INTERNET NEWS



Several new items have been added to the Olive Tree Genealogy pages in the last few days.

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*Added More ships passenger lists from Ireland to USA & Canada

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/irishtousa.shtml>

*Added More ships passenger lists from Scotland to USA & Canada

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/scotstousa.shtml>

More ships passenger lists from Germany & England to USA & Canada are coming soon.

*Added Best Kept Genealogy Secrets! - I was amazed at what free databases I found online

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/free-ancestry/>

* Added an entirely new section for those new to Genealogy! See Help for Beginners

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/beginner/>

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An announcement and a link about The Scottish Emigration Database was added to Olive Tree Genealogy Blog at

<http://olivetreegenealogy.blogspot.com/>

This free database currently contains the records of over 21,000 passengers who embarked at Glasgow and Greenock for non-European ports between 1 January and 30 April 1923, and at other Scottish ports between 1890 and 1960.

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Don't forget to see the list of monthly databases added to Olive Tree Genealogy and her sister sites, at

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/freedata.shtml>

* Olive Tree Genealogy (Ships Passenger Lists)

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/>

* Naturalization Records

<http://naturalizationrecords.com/>

* Images of Ships Lists

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ote/ships/>

otg@csolve.net or olivetreegenealogy@gmail.com

For anyone interested in purchasing an English Will or Marriage Bond,
there is a searchable database at:

<https://www.spitalfields-market.co.uk/Corporation/wills/>

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I left old England 'bout 1662
Me my wife and children too
I got no job in the county town
So we waz for the New World bound.
I sold me goat an dear ol' cow
An father-in-law took the sow
We packed our bags an left the 'ouse
Said goodbye to fleas and louse
We took the milk coach early one morn'
An said farewell to the town where I were born
The kids were yowling the weather cold
But things 'd be better so I waz told.
We traveled all day and through the night
Then Portsmouth we saw in the first morning light
The ships in the 'arbour rocked too and fro
We found our ship and it was time to go.
The kids watched the anchor as it were pulled on board
I prayed quietly "keep us safe dear Lord"
As the ship turned seaward I held my wife's 'and
And we said goodbye to England's green and pleasant land.
We sailed across the savage ocean
Most were ill with the sickening motion
Some folk died, disease was rife
The grim reaper nearly took me wife
After weeks of sailing we reached our goal
And thanked the Lord who saved our souls
The New World waited for us to go on shore
Like entering through a secret door.
We lived our lives and descendants too
But one thing I said someone must do
Search for your roots, sift the sand,
Go back one day to England's green and pleasant land.

Tessa Kirk
Ancestral Memories

The Thompson Family of Salisbury

Maureen M Leadbeater

The first James Thompson arrived in South Australia with his wife Ruth in March 1839 on the "Buckinghamshire". James and Ruth had married, and their three children baptised, in the church of Orton in Westmorland, England while James was a shepherd on the nearby fells of Langdale. Robert and William aged 5 and 3 years survived the journey but baby James, born just a few months before departure, did not.

The family was living at Bowden when the next son, also named James, was born in 1840. Three daughters followed – Elizabeth Ann, Anne (Nancy) and Jane. The five eldest children were christened in the St Augustine's church at Salisbury in 1846, even though Robert & William had already been baptised in Orton. The duplication was a great help in checking details.

James and his family settled at Dry Creek, the present day Pooraka, where he worked as a dairyman. Later he worked on the Gawler Plains where Ruth died in 1873 aged 67 years. Within a year James remarried a widow, Anne Short formerly Gurr nee Wimherst. I do not know what happened to her. In 1881 James, aged 72 and suffering senile decay, probably dementia, had been living with his son James at Salisbury. It must have become too difficult to care for him and his son paid 9/- per week for his father's maintenance in the Adelaide Destitute Asylum until his death three years later.

Eventually most of James & Ruth's children moved away from the Salisbury district. The eldest son Robert married Catherine Lynch and they had six children. I have traced Robert to White Horse Plains in 1881 but I have yet to find where he went after that. William married Hanora Ryan. Living first at Reeves Plains, he later took up land under the credit selection scheme at Coonatto in the Hundred of Pinda. When William died of typhoid fever at the age of 47 only three months after his father, Hanora took her surviving children to Port Pirie.

The eldest daughter of James and Ruth, Elizabeth Ann, married Archibald McColl, a Scot from the Isle of Mull. Archibald had the misfortune to be one of a group of thirty emigrants left behind because there was no more room on board when the "Schah Jehan" sailed in 1860. After several months delay Archibald was sent on the "Blue Jacket" via Melbourne. Elizabeth Ann and Archibald were married in 1863 and after their first three children were born, the family went to live in Victoria, where another seven children were born.

The two youngest daughters, Anne (known as Nancy) and Jane married the Hallion brothers, Michael and Mathew. Both had large families, 9 and 13 children, and settled on farms near Mallala and Barabba.

The only one of James & Ruth's children to remain in the Salisbury district was James, my great-grandfather. He was an industrious young man who worked hard at many occupations. Beginning, it is said, as a bullocky to the Kapunda copper mines, he soon acquired land at Red Banks. He married Mary Spain, one of another Salisbury family, and they had six children. James had a flair for making money and he moved into investment and property dealing. At one time

he owned the Governor MacDonnell Hotel and other valuable property in the heart of Salisbury. In the 1890s he retired and purchased a house, "Shirley Hall", in Robert Street in 1898. The family renamed it "Chelsea".

"Chelsea" was, and still is, an impressive house. Built in 1857 it had seven rooms, the pride of them being a ballroom. Nearby were stables and a coach house. A stone wall ran down the length of William Street enclosing the large English garden of flowers and fruit trees. There was also a fountain and a bird bath. The kitchen was a separate building with a vaulted cellar beneath and a lookout above from which ships could be seen sailing up the gulf. In summer the unmarried daughters would sit in the cellar, reading, doing needlework and other ladylike activities. Beside the kitchen there was an underground water tank and a windmill over a well. Mary did not live long to enjoy the family's retirement, dying in 1906.

James & Mary's eldest son, Patrick Augustine was set up on a farm at Penfield – the land is now part of Edinburgh RAAF base. Patrick married Anne Elizabeth O'Brien and they had four children. James Benedict, the second son, was married in Melbourne to Johanna, daughter of Daniel Quinlivan of Dry Creek. Of their 17 children, 12 survived to adulthood. James Benedict had a poor reputation – one of the anecdotes in the Salisbury History Collection describes him as a waster!

The eldest daughter and third child, Mary Immaculate, married Michael James O'Brien, the brother of Patrick Augustine's wife. They had five children. Eliza Ann married Edward Leo Doyle and lived on a farm near Hamley Bridge with their four children. The remaining two daughters had a double wedding in 1911 when Theresa Jane married William James O'Brien (no relation to the other O'Briens) and Cicely Ruth married Andrew Patrick O'Leary. Theresa and William had four sons and lived in Kings Road. Cicely and Andrew lived in "Chelsea" with her father and cared for him until his death in 1925. One of Theresa O'Brien's children was invited to name the streets in a subdivision of Salisbury near his home. There, between Spains and Kings Roads, are the streets he named for the Irish counties. But he remembered his family names - among the streets you will find Thompson and O'Brien Avenues.

Before his death James had quietly transferred money and property to his four daughters. When probate was settled the eldest son was puzzled, "I thought Father had more money than that." The girls wisely kept quiet. "Chelsea" passed from the family after a grand-daughter's death. My mother spent many girlhood holidays visiting her grandfather, James, whom she described as a white-haired gruff old man. Coming from a farm she enjoyed the pleasures of town life and being squired around by her boy cousins. She often spoke of those good times.

Sometimes I drive past "Chelsea" and try to imagine it in the days of horses and carriages. I try to picture William Street fronting the large garden, not the current suburban houses. The first James worked as a shepherd and a dairyman. His son James did well in the Salisbury district and was able to retire and call himself a "gentleman of independent means."

Acknowledgements

Besides the usual resources of the BDM, Catholic church records, cemetery headstones, shipping, IGI, Land Titles and Government Gazettes, I received much help and information from the Local History Room of the Salisbury Library, particularly from Gillian Pearson, the local historian at that time.