



Newsletter #21
May 2008

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, 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
Publicity Officer:	Barb Such
General Committee:	Colin Withall
	Ivan Randall
	Sandie Francis

RAFFLE

Congratulations to Joanne Stevens who won our last raffle.
Thank you to all who supported us.

MEETINGS

At tonight's meeting Terry Duggin will be helping us find our Elusive Ancestors

OPEN DAYS

We will be continuing our twice monthly Saturday afternoon open days.
The next dates will be 24th May and 14th June from 1-4pm.
Volunteers and Committee members will be on hand to assist you.

*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.*

CAN YOU HELP?

This column a free service to all members. Send your "Brick Walls" to genealogy99@iprimus.com.au with the subject title "Can You Help" to have them published. Remember that this newsletter is also posted on the Internet, therefore reaches a much wider audience than just members of our Group!

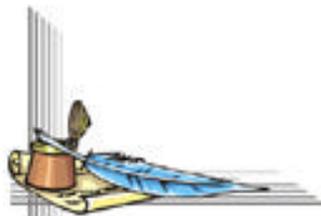
STOP PRESS!

We have received a \$1,000 community grant from the Salisbury Council to contribute towards Internet Access and a Multimedia Unit. The presentation will be made on 20th May from 6pm to 7pm in the council chambers.
Thank you Margaret for all the work you have put into this application!

COMPUTER CLASSES

Does your computer confuse and frustrate you?
Would you like to gain a better understanding of what makes it tick, and the best way to make it do what **you** want it to do instead of letting **it** rule?
Ivan Randall is our resident computer whiz who can help you let the computer know who's boss!

He will be running a number of classes, the first being on 24th May 2008, dealing with computer basics. Getting to know what is inside the box. Topics for further classes will be discussed then, to gauge areas of interest. Suggestions include: Computer Hardware, Computer Software, View Settings, What files are: including folders etc, Applications, Sending an e-mail, Sending & receiving e-mail attachments, Web based e-mail, File backing up
There will be a small charge of \$5 per person, and handouts will be included.
Ring Margaret on 8281 8431 to book your seat.



Cemeteries, Monuments and Family History

On Thursday night April 17, Tammy Martin and Helen Stein presented us with a very entertaining and an inspiring talk, which emphasised the values of consulting headstone monuments and cemetery records as an invaluable tool when researching family history.

Tammy explained that cemeteries are far from being morbid and dreary places, but are in fact a repository of information which reveals so much about our relatives and ancestors, for example dates of birth and death, the persons age, the maiden name of a married relative, a list of his or her children. Sometimes additional information might be recorded such as when and how the person arrived in Australia, or membership of a particular group such as the Free Masons or Royal and Ancient Order of the Buffaloes etc.

Helen manning the slide presentation showed several headstones from various cemeteries, one located in New Zealand revealed that in 1906, a Hugh MacKenzie at the age of 21 years and 3 months lost his life within sight of his home in a snow slip. Then in 1915 Lt. Walter MacKenzie, who was apparently the former's brother, was killed in action at Gallipoli. Thus 2 sons were lost to the parents in tragic circumstances.

Often poignant information reveal the loss of a baby or young child through an accident, the feelings of the parents were evident in the example of a boy aged 2 years who lost his life in 1924 when he drowned in an underground tank, the epitaph ends with the words "*Our Sweet Boy*"

One example of a family History comes from a particular headstone found in the Payneham Cemetery. The plaque details the story of the life of one Samuel – from his birth details, his arrival in Australia, and his expedition to the Victorian goldfields at the height of the Victorian gold rush and later work in the Montacute copper mines. The story of his travel to New Zealand in 1862 where he walked 300 miles to Lake Wakatipu and back again. He arrived back in South Australia, and with his wife walked along the River Murray from Swan Creek to Adelaide, where the family settled in 1865. At the time of his death he was survived by 10 children.

The graves quite often tell stories of a person's life, for example Mining tools indicate that a person was obviously a miner. Another bears a keg, which might show that the person was very fond of his beer. A most curious grave surround takes the form of a castle with ramparts, the significance of which is not readily available and lends itself to many interpretations.



Coober Pedy Cemetery

Tammy then went on and explained the difference between perpetual and reusable grave sites. It is unfortunate that in South Australia, burial sites are limited to 25 or 50 years, and are reused at the end of the lease period. This stems from the fact that cemeteries in the metropolitan area are owned both by councils, or a cemetery trust, with no new cemeteries being created, and vacant land being made available for housing, burial space is a premium. Reusing grave sites was not always practiced, in the past a grave was leased for 100 years; there are only 2 cemeteries that have reclaimed graves after the expiry of the 100 year lease. Country cemeteries do not reclaim grave sites probably because there is more ground available. Victoria does not reclaim graves, and once a person is buried the grave remains undisturbed.

In the Adelaide metropolitan cemeteries that do reclaim the graves after the lease has expired, usually attempt to contact the family of the deceased to arrange a renewal the lease. If this can not be done, then the headstone is removed and re-located on the boundary fence of the cemetery usually near the entrance gates. Some headstones may be claimed by the family, and if they wish take them home.

Cheltenham Cemetery have reclaimed entire sections of what one would call the "*old cemetery*" or "*Pioneer Cemetery*," the area adjacent to the Port Road, the headstones removed and stored. This reclaiming was done by the trust without any consultation with the families, nor were they contacted for renewal of the leases.

Centennial Park, on the other hand place a small plaque on the headstone of those nearing the end of the grave lease, thereby physically inviting the relatives to renew the lease. They also attempt to locate any descendants for the original lessee in an attempt to have the lease renewed for another period of time.

Where headstones and monuments are damaged both through removal during reclaiming a site, or by the act of vandals, relatives are notified and where possible headstones are repaired. In the case of headstones and monuments being damaged beyond repair, they are often broken down into rubble and used as ground cover between the graves.

Tammy using slides explained the various grave monuments and their meanings. Angles usually have their right hand and right finger lifted upwards pointing towards heaven, whilst in the other hand they hold a scroll or the anchor of faith, often they may hold the trumpet of resurrection, or palm leaves which means peace.

The Open Book, often displayed on the grave stone, provides a space for the recording of such things as the name and dates of birth and death.

The Urn was originally used by the ancient Romans for the internment of the cremated ashes, and has become symbolic of death, sometimes the urn is plain without any decoration, and other times draped.

Doves are a symbol of the Holy Spirit and Love, where a dove carries an olive branch in its beak it refers to eternal peace.

Crosses consist of the Calvary cross or the familiar cross is set on a pedestal of three steps signifying Faith, Hope and Charity. The Celtic cross has the addition of a circle at the junction of the cross bar and the upright.

Maltese has an equally sized bar and upright with the end widening in a triangular pattern. Eastern or Orthodox crosses have two cross bars the top beam carries the letters INRI the Latin inscription of Jesus the Nazarene King of the Jews. The lower Bar is slanted left to right which was probably represented a foot rest on the cross.

The discussion concluded with Tammy mentioning the various Local cemeteries, Salisbury, Playford and Gawler. There are within the local areas several cemeteries that are the prerogative of the various Churches e.g. Catholic, Anglican etc, along with a variety of designated "*Pioneer*" Cemeteries, mostly these are closed cemeteries.

To locate information regarding any cemetery, go to www.ozgenonline.com this is Peter's personal website and has a full list of every known cemetery within the state.

Helpful Websites:

LOCAL CEMETERY SITES

http://www.ozgenonline.com/aust_cemeteries/
Australian Cemeteries

http://www.ozgenonline.com/aust_cemeteries/sa/adelaide/westtrce.htm
West Terrace Cemetery

http://www.centennialpark.org/rel_search.asp
Centennial Park Cemetery

INTERNATIONAL CEMETERY SITES

<http://www.interment.net/uk/eng/index.htm>
ENGLAND

<http://www.genealogylinks.net/uk/scotland/allscotlandcemeteries.htm>
SCOTLAND

<http://www.genealogylinks.net/uk/wales/index.html>
WALES

<http://www.interment.net/ireland/index.htm>
IRELAND

<http://www.totentanz.de/usa.htm>
AMERICA

<http://www.totentanz.de/europe.htm>
EUROPE

OLD DISEASE NAMES

How often have you seen a cause of death on a certificate and wondered just exactly what that particular illness was? Here is a list of some of the old names and their more familiar counterparts.

Ague	Usually malaria but can be any feverish illness with fits of shivering.
American plague	Yellow fever.
Apoplexy	Paralysis due to stroke.
Bad Blood	Syphilis.
Black Death	Bubonic plague.
Bladder In Throat	Diphtheria.
Bloody Flux	Dysentery involving a discharge of blood. Bloody stools.
Brain fever	Meningitis or typhus.
Bronze John	Yellow fever.
Child Bed (Fever)	Infection in the mother following birth of a child, probably due to staphylococcus.
Chin cough	Whooping cough.
Choak	Croup.
Commotion	Concussion.
Decubitis	Died in bed.
Dock Fever	Yellow fever.
Dropsy	Abnormal swelling of the body or part of the body due to the build-up of clear watery fluid. Edema (swelling), often caused by kidney or heart disease.
Dry Bellyache	Lead poisoning.
Enteric fever	Typhoid fever.
Fainting Fits	Probably a euphemism for epilepsy.
Falling Sickness	Epilepsy.
Flux	Dysentery. An excessive flow or discharge of fluid like hemorrhage or diarrhoea.
French Pox	Syphilis.
Frogg	Croup.
General Paralysis of the Insane	Syphilis affecting the brain.
Great Pox	Syphilis.
Hospital fever	Typhus.
Infantile Paralysis	Poliomyelitis (polio).
Jail fever	Typhus.
Lockjaw	Tetanus, a disease in which the jaws become firmly locked together. Synonyms: trismus, tetanus.
Long Sickness	Tuberculosis.
Lues disease	Syphilis.
Lung Fever	Pneumonia.
Lung Sickness	Tuberculosis.
Malignant fever	Typhus.
Malignant Sore Throat	Diphtheria.
Membranous Croup	Diphtheria.
Miasma	Poisonous vapours thought to infect the air and cause disease.
Morbili	Measles.
Mormal	Gangrene.
Pertussis	Whooping cough.
Peurperal exhaustion	Death due to child birth.
Phthisis	Tuberculosis. Chronic wasting away or a name for tuberculosis.
Putrid fever	Typhus. Diphtheria.
Rag-Picker's Disease	Anthrax.
Rubeola	German measles.
Scarlatina	Scarlet fever.
Ship fever	Typhus.
Softening of the Brain	Stroke. Result of stroke or haemorrhage in the brain, with an end result of the tissue softening in that area.
Spotted fever	Meningitis or typhus. Either typhus or meningitis.
Stranger's fever	Yellow fever.
Tussis convulsiva	Whooping cough.

"The 23rd Psalm for Genealogists"

Genealogy is my Pastime ...
I shall not stray,

It maketh me to lie down
and examine half-buried Tombstones;

It leadeth me into still Courthouses.
It restoreth my Ancestral Knowledge;

It leadeth me into the Paths of Census Records
and Ships Passenger Lists for my Surnames' sake;

Yes, though I wait through the Shadows
of Research Libraries and Microfilm Readers,

I shall fear no Discouragement,
for a Strong Urge is with me.

The curiosity and Motivation,
they Comfort me;

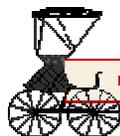
It demandeth preparation of Storage Space
for the Acquisition of Countless Documents;

It annointeth my Head with burning Midnight Oil,
My Family Group Sheets runneth over.

Surely Birth, Marriage and Death dates
shall follow me all the Days of my Life,

And I shall dwell in the House
of a Family History Seeker Forever.

~ Author Unknown ~



Genealogy..Life in the Past Lane...

