

MITCHAM MEMORIES

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MHS

THE MITCHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

The September edition of the newsletter marks one year since I became editor. I would like to thank those that have offered feedback, with your help we can produce the best newsletter. I also encourage readers to make topic suggestions, or share their own research. I'd like to thank Richard Irving for his hard work in researching articles. Lastly, I'd like to thank Pamela Oborn for helping edit this edition.

DISCLAIMER

Views and opinions expressed in articles in the Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Mitcham Historical Society Inc. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of articles printed, responsibility is not accepted for any errors they may contain that are out of the Society's control.

PRIVACY ACT

A member's personal information collected by the Society, for example name, address and telephone number, will only be used for forwarding of the Newsletter and relevant information concerning the Society. The information will not be shared, sold or given to any third party without the member's consent. Any e-mails will be treated as above. However, any information sent by e-mail will be at the sender's risk and the Society will not be held responsible for any unintended use or disclosure of this.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We gratefully acknowledge and thank Martin Hamilton-Smith. M. P., and his office for their assistance in the printing of this Newsletter.

Chairperson's Message

Dear members, I sincerely hope that this year has been full of successful endeavours for you all. Our events undertaken since my last Chairperson's Report are as follows:

September 2015: AGM. Elected members were Julie Hogan (Chairperson), Brian Angus (Treasurer), Cheryl Schneider (Secretary), with Committee Members of Peter Basedow, Trish Cosh and John Wood. Richard Irving retired as our Newsletter Editor and Annalise Hogan is currently fulfilling this position. Our Guest Speaker for the evening was Councillor Lindy Taeuber who gave us an interesting presentation on the 1914 Blackwood Magazine.

November 2015: Art Deco and Modern Bus Tour, organised by John Wood and Peter Basedow.

December 2015: Christmas breakup celebrations at the Edinburgh Hotel organised by Brian Angus.

March 2016: Twilight Walking Tour of Lower Mitcham, hosted by Glen Woodward.

May 2016: History of Wine & Food in the Adelaide Hills Region Tour organised by Peter Basedow and John Wood.

May 2016: South Australia's History Festival event with two walks in Brownhill Creek and Ellison's Gully hosted by Councillor Andrew Tilley.

July 2016: MHS hosted the 13th Eastern Regional Historical Societies Seminar.

August 2016: "The Life of Tom Price, Early SA Premier" presentation by Stephanie McCarthy.

The MHS greatly appreciates all the assistance Dr John Newton and his staff at Scotch College have provided for us during the year. We could not have offered such a well-received programme of events if it were not for the hard work and commitment from our committee members. The Historical Societies Seminar was a large undertaking for the MHS and we were fortunate to have received a small grant of \$500 from the Mitcham Council to assist us. We had an excellent turn out with 67 attendees. Mayor of Mitcham, Glenn Spear, commenced the proceedings with the opening address and our keynote speaker, Richard Heathcote thoroughly entertained us with his presentation on "The Year of the Pearl". Therese Willis gave us fascinating insight into the Mitcham Village precinct and the Research Centre. Glen Woodward guided us through an interesting walking tour of our local historic buildings in the vicinity. We are delighted to pass the banner for the 2018 Historical Societies Seminar onto the Mount Lofty Districts Historical Society. Our successful event would not have run so smoothly without the tireless dedication of Cheryl Schneider and Helen Robinson. Cheryl has been an amazing asset to our committee but is sadly retiring as Secretary. However, we are pleased to welcome Sandy Matz who has volunteered to take up this position. I would like to also thank Brian Angus, who despite moving far from our Mitcham area, has continued on as Treasurer. We are extremely thankful for the efforts of Glen Woodward, John Wood and Peter Basedow in organising our outdoor excursions throughout the year. Annalise Hogan has been providing us with the quarterly newsletters and please feel free to contribute articles, photos, letters or family stories for our publication.

As this year's programme draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone well for 2017.

Calendar

Program for September to December

SEPTEMBER | 27th Tuesday MHS Annual General Meeting

Time: 7pm for 7.30.

Venue: Drawing Room, Scotch College.

For details see page 8.

OCTOBER | 23rd Sunday North Adelaide Bus Tour

Time: 9.15 departure.

Meet: Mitcham Council car park.

For details see page 12.

DECEMBER | 13th Tuesday Christmas Function

Time: 4pm.

Venue: Edinburgh Hotel

For details see page 15.



ADELAIDE,
SEPTEMBER
1937

General News

Photos from the 13th Eastern Regional Historical Societies Seminar



RICHARD HEATHCOTE



TREVOR & MAXINE CONLON



JOHN WOOD



DR ANN HERRAMAN



ROWENA & PHIL ATKINSON & JULIE HOGAN



CHERYL SCHNEIDER

Welcome!

The MHS warmly welcomes our new member: **TONY ELLIOT**

The MHS is also excited to officially welcome **SANDRA MATZ** as the new secretary. We thank you in advance and we kindly thank Cheryl Schneider for of all her hard work in the past.

Community Grant

Photo of the Community Grant being awarded to the Mitcham Historical Society.



L-R: COLIN & JULIE HOGAN, MAYOR GLENN SPEAR & CHERYL SCHNEIDER

Title Page & Calendar Pictures

Both the title page and calendar pictures were taken by Raymond Hier Gordon in 1937. The former picture was taken in early spring of the Adelaide University Footbridge. We can see trees in their early stages, after having being planted, that have now progressed into beautiful shaded areas.

The latter picture is taken from the intersection of King William Street and Waymouth Street, outside the Advertiser building, on a wet spring day.

Image Source: State Library of South Australia. (2013). *PRG 1605/1/1*. [image] Available at: <http://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+1605/1/1> [Accessed 19 Aug. 2016]

Image Source: State Library of South Australia. (2013). *PRG 1605/1/8*. [image] Available at: <http://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+1605/1/8> [Accessed 19 Aug. 2016]

"The Bronze Horseman - more than just a statue"

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Mitcham Historical Society Inc.

Guest Speaker: Dr John Newton, Principal of Scotch College

When: Tuesday 27 September

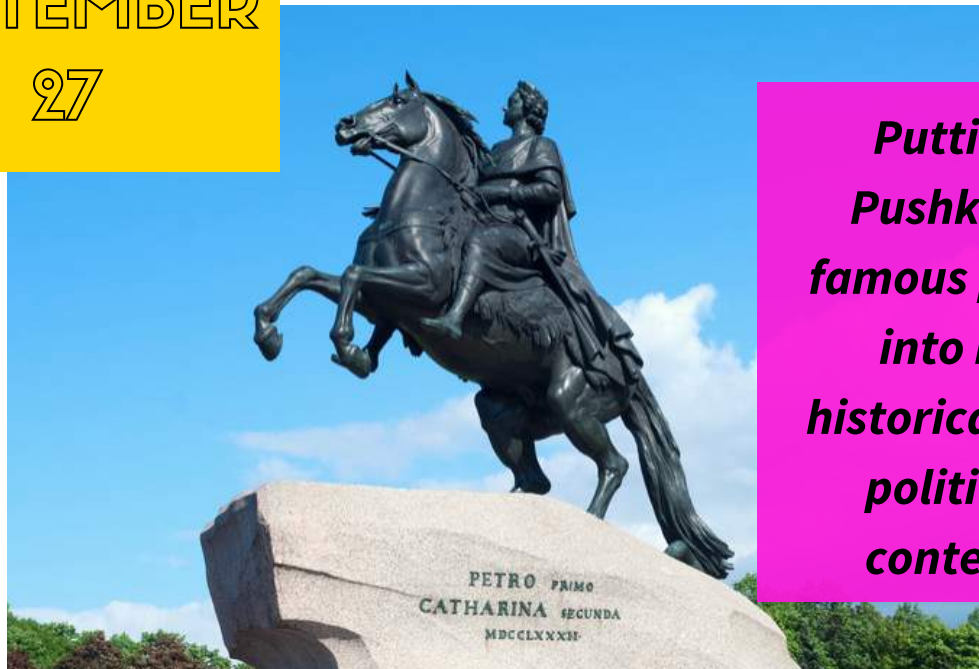
Time: 7pm for 7.30 pm – Drawing Room – Scotch College

Contact: Julie Hogan **PH:** 0430 472 262 **Email:** julie.a.hogan@gmail.com

Refreshments and wine included.

SEPTEMBER

27



***Putting
Pushkin's
famous poem
into its
historical and
political
context.***

In the last News Page I provided a detailed summary of the Connecting Communities, Cultural Heritage and Nature-Based Tourism Project, which is centered around the proposed Wirraparinga Loop Trail and connected to a larger cultural heritage precinct.

Brownhill Creek Association (BCA), The Friends of Brownhill Creek and the Rotary Club of Brownhill Creek have all committed significant resources and funds towards the trail and the Australian Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development has just awarded the project a Stronger Communities Programme grant of \$20,000. Nicolle Flint MP, Federal Member for Boothby, secured a \$200,000 Green Army project for trail construction, native revegetation and habitat restoration. Martin Hamilton-Smith MP, local Member for Waite, has facilitated high-level meetings with the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) and the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC). Mitcham Council recently voted to give in-principle support for the project and council staff are providing valuable guidance. Rodney Harrex, Chief Executive of SATC, strongly backs the project and a very successful Tourism Forum was held at Carrick Hill on Tuesday 13th September.

BCA is seeking to partner with Mitcham Historical Society and the Mitcham Heritage Research Centre, to develop interpretive signage for the cultural heritage trail. Additional funding is required for the interpretive heritage signage, which will educate visitors and our local community. BCA representatives, NRM Education Officers, a DEWNR Ranger and teachers from our local schools, Urrbrae Wetlands and Urrbrae TAFE, have formed an Education and Revegetation Committee. All are keen to tap into this exciting opportunity to teach and learn about our local Kaurna and European cultural heritage.

The recent flood event highlighted the urgency of securing the funding needed to implement the final Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Management Plan. After decades of indecision all five councils have agreed to a plan that will provide the required 1 in 100 year ARI level of flood protection across the Brown Hill and Keswick Creek catchments. The five catchment councils have budgeted for their share of the costs, but are waiting for the State Government to contribute its share. Hopefully there will be a quick decision with Federal funding to follow.

Ron Bellchambers
BCA Community Liaison Officer
brownhillcreek@gmail.com
www.brownhillcreek.org

The Deepdell Brewery

By Rick Irving

Thomas Moulden leased ten acres of land at Brownhill Creek early in 1850, and mortgaged the land to Messrs. Bunce, Brown, Mann, Hanson & Colley in order to operate the Deepdell Brewery. Yet in just over a year, he had been declared insolvent. What had happened over the period of time from March 1850 to July 13th, 1851 to cause his insolvency?

Was the beer Moulden brewed unpalatable? In January and February 1851 he advertised in the *Adelaide Observer* two different brews, Number 1 and Number 2, available at J. F. Joubert's in Grenfell Street. The prices were 8/- and 6/- a dozen. In the notice for the final sale of the brewery, there were 300 dozen bottles of ale included, Moulden's Superior bottled ale. At the declaration of insolvency, creditors owed him the sum of £96, outstanding for the sale of his ale. Included in that amount was £ 35 owed by J. F. Joubert's in Grenfell Street. With the advertised prices of his ale, that suggests a lot of bottles of ale sold, further suggesting the ale was a popular brew. It would seem that he was not declared insolvent because his ale was unpalatable.

Was Moulden a poor advertiser for his ale? As stated above, a number (at least six) of successive *Adelaide Observer* newspapers carried his advertising. The fact that he had many creditors for ale suggests he advertised sufficiently well to sell the ale.

Was Moulden really a bad financial manager? Excerpts from his ledger balance sheet suggest otherwise. In March 1850 he paid out approximately £ 430, including old debts and lease. From March to August 1850 he paid wages of approximately £208, horse hire, £100, and £60 in interest on the mortgage. Other expenses paid that same year amounted to over £130, and £50 was lost by beer sampling at Joubert's. It is also interesting to note that J. F. Joubert went insolvent in 1851 also.

Was he the victim of circumstances wholly or partly beyond his control that eventually led to his insolvency? Included in his debtors were Simms & Hayter, of Pirie Street, who owed Moulden £800 for salary. For the non-payment of ales sold, as stated above, he was owed at least £96, and other sundry creditors owed him £9. However, his debtors were owed approximately £915. It can be argued that the £800 owed to Moulden would have gone a long way towards paying that debt.

Were there other circumstances that were beyond his control? During the period May to September 1850 some of his ale turned bad. This would surely have been within the brewery vats, not in the bottles, which would have lost him potential income. Why did this happen? We know that Moulden used Brownhill Creek as a water supply for his brewery, was this a bad time, did something happen to the water further upstream? Was the supply low, too tannic from leaves, or contaminated? There was a silver-lead mine upstream of his brewery.

Was Moulden declared insolvent simply because he could not pay his debts, or was he just unlucky? We shall never know the real reason, or reasons, but it is my belief that he was the victim of circumstances that were wholly or partially beyond his control.

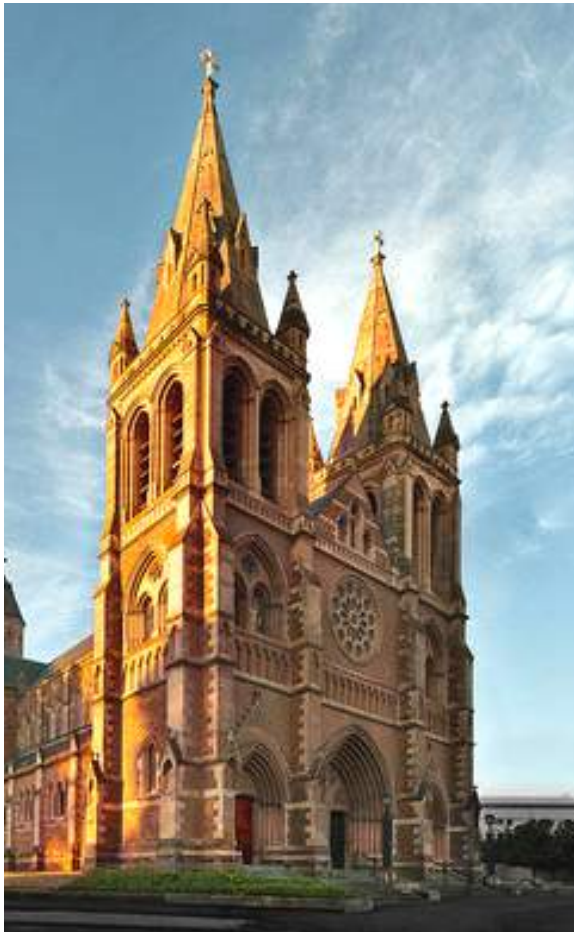
It seems that Thomas Moulden and his wife Elizabeth Caroline lived on the site of the Brewery, as their first child, Caroline Evelyn was born there on the 12th of July 1850. As to exactly where the Deepdell Brewery was situated, the records of the time simply state "Brownhill Creek". A suggested location, for which there is some evidence, is about one mile east of the junction of the creek, close to the location of the former Baptist chapel. At this location, evidence of the creek being dammed in the past can be seen.

Following his insolvency, Moulden and his family settled in Pulteney Street Adelaide, and later to Norwood.

North Adelaide Bus Tour



HISTORICAL INSIGHTS INTO NORTH ADELAIDE



October 23rd

Meet: Mitcham Council car park

Bus departs: 9.15am sharp

Cost: \$79 MHS members

\$89 non-members

Contacts: John Wood 0402 781 601

Or by email: johnwood@adam.com.au

Peter Basedow 0417 809 227

Refreshments and lunch included



Book early to avoid disappointment

Spring Poem

Poem and illustration by Erica Gilchrist, of the then Norwood Junior Technical Girls' School, from September 1941.

*"O! Thou turquoise flecked fairy of
the spring,
Thou symbol of delight!
Thy wings, like threads of silvery
moonbeams spun
Are quivering now in flight.
Thou'rt poised, with grace, midway
on blossomed stem,
Thy patterned body glows
With Softly mellowed tones of
deep'ning bronze.
Thou art gone! The flower
blows . . ."*



The high school factions of Norwood Girls Technical School and Kensington Girls Technical School amalgamated in 1968. This was to reduce overcrowding at Norwood and because having two technical schools so close together was superfluous. A few years later, in 1975, Kensington & Norwood Girls Technical High School amalgamated with Marryatville Boys High School (previously Norwood Boys Technical School) to become what we know as Marryatville High School.

Source: 1941 'Fairy of Spring', The Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), 6 September, p. 8. , viewed 29 Aug 2016, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article54892606>

Dunstan, D 1968, *Kensington and Norwood Girls Technical High School*, viewed 5 September 2016, <http://dspace.flinders.edu.au/xmlui/bitstream/handle/2328/28992/0440.pdf?sequence=1>

Feather Fever

From *News*, written by Rhys Clarke in 1950.

"Everyone knows the line 'In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love...' However, Tennyson was certainly no less accurate in the immediately preceding line, 'In the spring a livelier iris changes on the burnish'd dove.'

For down at Adelaide's Zoo the birds show the most marked reaction in spring, both in behaviour and in the perfection of their full-dress plumage.

And if fine feathers make fine birds, then there's a lot of fine birds - especially the males - at the Zoo in springtime.

Whether it's parrots or peacocks, pigeons or pheasants, the male of the species is more beautiful than the female. And with more conceit (sic). Zoo officials say male birds are most conscious of their beauty, and love nothing better than an opportunity to show off their brilliant feathers. For instance, the golden pheasant will spread his ruffs and fancy feathers in one way that displays them to the maximum advantage. And if natural opportunities aren't coming quickly enough, these dandies will make their own. Pigeons and pheasants will display in front of a shiny notice board, or any other inanimate object that takes their eye.

A Zoo official says that one male parrot, in the fire of spring, will show off his finery to a protruding knob on his perch. It's enough to give any female parrot an inferiority complex to realise that her husband is just as pleased with a lump of wood!

A wife of even less importance is the female brush turkey. In the matters of courtship, mating, and raising a family, the male does everything except lay the eggs. The male scratches up a great mound of leaves and debris, which, when wet, generates heat like compost... And without the aid of either thermometer or thermostat, the brush turkey keeps the mound at the right temperature.

Last year one brush turkey at Adelaide Zoo built his mound in the flamingos' enclosure. He had to get his materials from another part of the Zoo and there were two low walls in between. He raked his materials up to the first wall. The Zoo attendants obligingly opened the gate and he scraped the stuff through. The same routine was followed at the second wall."

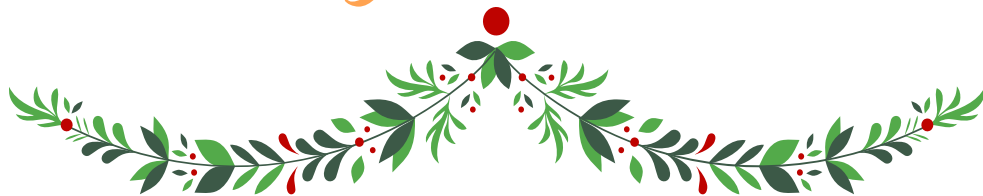
Keep an eye out for confident birds, looking to attract a mate this spring. Commonly seen birds in South Australia are Sulphur-crested Cockatoos, Little Corellas, Long-billed Corellas, Rainbow Lorikeets, Noisy Minors, Australian Magpies, Grey Currawongs and the Australian White Ibis. You might want to avoid the magpies - lest you don't mind the occasional swoop.

Source: 1950 'Springtime at the Zoo', *News* (Adelaide, SA : 1923 - 1954), 7 October, p. 5. , viewed 26 Aug 2016, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article131219741>



Christmas Function

Tuesday 13 December



Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: The Garden, Edinburgh Hotel,
High Street, Mitcham

Contact: Brian Angus: 8337 9344

Light refreshments provided



Corporate Memberships

It is with pleasure that we present here, the names of our
Corporate Members,

Namely:

Edinburgh Hotel & Cellars

This Fine Day Cafe

Mitcham Antique Gallery

Mitcham Square Newsagency

Scotch College

David Cosh