



NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2014



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **2pm - Sunday 27th April**

The AGM will be held at John Horrocks Cottage followed by a Guest Speaker and complimentary Afternoon Tea.

The meeting will commence at 2pm with the main business on the agenda:

- A Special Resolution to pass a change in the Constitution regarding the clause covering winding up with respect to the Society's tax deductibility status
- Election of the Committee and setting subscription rates for the 2014-15 financial year

Following the AGM, Rod Shearing, President of the Royal Geographic Society of SA, will talk on:

John Ainsworth Horrocks and Other Driven Men

The presentation will include:

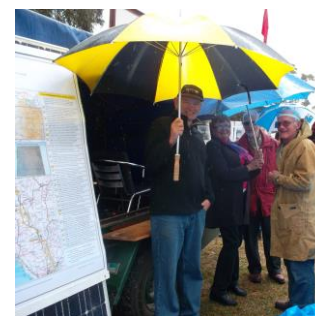
- Reasons that led to John Horrocks leaving England in 1839 and setting out north in SA in 1846.
- The logistics of placing the Horrocks marker at Lake Dutton and other plaques along his route.
- Mention of the virtual contemporaries of Horrocks, including George French Angas and William Silver, Principal of S.W. Silver & Co.
- The Industrial Revolution and its effect on the Horrocks Family and how at the same time an international significant collection of geographical exploration was building up in London for eventual transfer to South Australia

AO Blitz -Watervale Becomes Premier Tennis Town



The AO Blitz was an interactive online competition that invited individuals, schools and clubs to take on a series of fun challenges and win great prizes. They also earned points for taking challenges, which were then awarded to their nominated town and those that earn the most points were represented on court by one of the world's top tennis players at the Australian Open 2014. Watervale was paired with Na Li and due to her win at the Aussie Open, became the inaugural winner of the National Competition. The celebration at the Watervale Hotel raised over \$1,000 towards the resurfacing of the tennis courts. (*For more information see the Watervale Tennis Clubs Facebook page*)

On Sunday 16th March a Town Party was held on the Watervale Oval as part of the celebrations and guests of honour were Todd Woodbridge and John Fitzgerald. MHHS were invited to have a stand at the event and the opportunity was taken to showcase our Society. Although the weather was unpredictable, it did not dampen our spirits or dedication!



Malcolm Weddle, David & Wendy Spackman, Janet & Jim Morran

Watervale 150th Time Capsule

As reported in the Summer 2014 Newsletter MHHS have been successful in locating a Time Capsule buried in 1997 as part of the 150th Celebrations in Watervale. A slate marker (donated by Gypsy Sandow) has been installed by the Society to mark the spot of the time capsule showing the year in which the capsule is to be exhumed.



David Spackman and Jim Morran prepared the ground and laid the slate in position at the Watervale Soldiers Memorial Park.



Sevenhill's Weikert Cottage Restoration

Weikert Cottage in the grounds of the Sevenhill Winery is named after Franz Weikert, a Silesian farmer who led a group of 130 Catholics who came from Silesia to South Australia in 1848 seeking political freedom. This group included two Austrian Jesuit chaplains, one of who was Father Aloysius Kranewitter SJ, the original Jesuit settler at Sevenhill.

Weikert's party arrived at Port Adelaide in December 1848 and the first Catholic Bishop of Adelaide asked Fr. Kranewitter to travel north to minister to the Catholics dispersed through the Mid and Far North of the infant colony.

Fr. Kranewitter accompanied Weikert and his family to Clare and lived with them near the township of Clare until the Jesuits purchased the Sevenhill property in 1851. Weikert Cottage was built in three stages and completed in 1865.

The Jesuits brought Franz Weikert and his wife to Sevenhill to live in the cottage when they were no longer able to maintain their nearby farm.

In 1871 the now Saint Mary Mackillop stayed in Weikert cottage when her brothers, Donald and Peter, were at school at Sevenhill College.



The restoration of Weikert Cottage is an ambitious project that requires approximately \$500,000 to ensure that the religious and historic significance of this site in South Australia's Clare Valley is protected and shared with the community and beyond.

For donation information
Telephone: (08) 8843 4062 or
email: sevenhill@cis.jesuit.org.au



“Jerry Come Back To Me” A story from Watervale – from Back-in-the-Day

Four ladies from the Watervale Bowling Club were travelling to a tournament at Robertstown when a very pretty ‘jerry’ was seen sitting upon a strainer post at the side of the road. Because of its attractiveness, the lady bowlers backed up to have a closer look and as there was no house in sight one of the team decided to lay claim to it. Considering it a crime to leave such an attractive pot for the vandals to take pot-shots at, she took the object and replaced the article with a stone.

One of the other bowlers with quite a sense of humour penned the following letter and presented it to the lady who now owned the pot:

Would the young lady seen removing a family heirloom from a certain corner post approx. 2 miles north of Robertstown on Monday 25 November 1975 at 5pm please return the item forthwith. Although the article is of little monetary value, it is ‘soaked’ in past history, and holds a ‘pot’ of memories. As said lady (dressed in white – resembling Florence Nightingale minus lamp) is possibly a member of the National Trust, or removed it believing in the “Keep Australia Beautiful” Campaign – she can be assured she will not be prosecuted and may have her stone back in place thereof.

Should you have similar tales to tell please contact Jim on morranj@bigpond.com (anonymously if you so desire!). This is your Newsletter, so feel free to forward it to your friends and acquaintances who may be interested in any of our items or contributing appropriate articles.



On a more serious note, the Society has many historic photographs in the Photographic Collection, but is hoping to expand this collection for the benefit of future generations.

All too many of the pictures we have in the Collection lack the subjects’ names, locations or dates. Should you have any interesting photographs of the district, of local residents or events either from the past or more recent we would be pleased to add them to the Collection along with relevant information to be stored with them. If you do not wish to part with them, they can be scanned in and copied then added to the Collection. Please contact Janet Morran or any Committee Member if you can assist.

REMINDER!

History SA – “About Time”

As in previous years MHHS will host an event in the “About Time” programme which runs during the month of May. John Horrocks Cottage to open:

**Sunday 4th May
10am – 4pm**

An ideal opportunity for you to meet up with your Committee for a cuppa, check out what has been happening at the cottage and inspect the new shed.

St Mark’s church will hold a service at **11am** and the Church will be open to view from **1pm – 4pm**

Look out for the “About Time” Programme to find out what else is happening around the State during SA History Month - May 2014

Acquisitions Donations

Documentation of the life and times of Carl and Meta Sobels has been compiled by Alex Mackenzie (Wine Maker at Annie's Lane Winery) as part of his submission for Carl August Sobels (1839-1923) to be considered for the Clare Valley Wine Makers Hall of Fame:

"The Clare Valley Wine Industry aims to honour those who have been involved in and have been innovative in the growing of grapes, production of wine or brand marketing, over a significant period of time and have had a significant influence or contribution to the ongoing development of Clare Valley Wine".

Apart from his winemaking (Springvale Winery, Watervale) Carl Sobels was a valued resident of the town of Watervale as was his wife Meta.

Alex has donated a copy of his work to the Society and we wish him success in his nomination.

"Frederick Bartlett's Pioneer Ancestors –The Bartletts, Hamps, Johnsons & Brydens"
donated by the writer - Carmel Floreani

Pioneer Service

St Marks Church, Penwortham 11am Sunday 21st September

This year, the annual Pioneer Service will be dedicated to those from the district who fought in the First World War.



As we are all aware it is 100 years ago that England declared war on Germany and many young Australian men and women fought alongside the English some never to return home.

A display of photographs and books relating to both WW1 & WW2 will be on display in the Interpretive Centre adjacent to John Horrocks Cottage after the service. Should you have any photographs to add to the display please contact Janet on 88492410 or email morranj@bigpond.com



"Lest we Forget"

Committee Members

President	Wendy Spackman	Publicity/Newsletter	Jim Morran
Vice-President	Janet Morran	Minute Secretary	Jim Morran
Secretary	Anne Weddle	Public Officer	David Spackman
Treasurer	David Spackman		
COMMITTEE	Joey Duncan, Gypsy Sandow, Helen Karger, Alan Williams, Malcolm Weddle and Doreen Hill		

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Details of charges for research undertaken by the Society are available on request

Website: www.communitywebs.org/MountHorrocksHistoricalSociety

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