



## NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2025

### Visitors

#### **Notice of Annual General Meeting** **11am Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

As in previous years, MHHS will be holding its AGM at the Watervale Bowling Club.



Following the meeting, a light lunch will be provided by the Committee. The Guest Speaker this year will be Committee Member Eugenie Booth who will present:

#### *THE CEDARS - Evolution of a Family Home*

Eugenie will discuss the 'Cedars', the home of artist Sir Hans Heysen and family of Hahndorf. Her talk will include notes and photos from her late husband Drew Booth, grandson of Hans Heysen.

This promises to be a very interesting talk not to be missed.

Please RSVP to the Secretary by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May  
Email [mhhsinc@gmail.com](mailto:mhhsinc@gmail.com)

Fiona & Mark Dinsdale, from Emerald in Queensland, visited John Horrocks Cottage in March. Meredith was on hand to show the visitors the cottage. Of special interest was the fact that Fiona is a descendant of Samuel Horrocks, the brother of the grandfather of John Ainsworth Horrocks. Family Trees were discussed and Fiona became a much valued member of the Society



Fiona & Mark Dinsdale



Earlier this year, Tony Piccolo MP for Light, visited the cottage and met with David & Wendy Spackman

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Adelaide Showgrounds – 100 Years in Wayville**

Today, the Adelaide Showground holds many of Adelaide's most popular events, including the Royal Adelaide Show. The Showground (also popularly known as the Wayville Showgrounds) is located in the inner-southern Adelaide suburb.



The Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of South Australia (RAHS) has controlled the site since the 1920s, the land having been purchased by the South Australian government prior to the First World War. The Royal Show moved to the present site in Wayville in **1925**. The Showground has one of the largest under-cover exhibition spaces in the Southern Hemisphere, and hosts over 140 exhibitions and conferences each year.

## From the Mt Horrocks Historical Society Archives - 1925



Watervale Cricket Club - 1925



Watervale Primary School - 1925

Girl Guide Camp at Upper Skilly Church - 1925



Penwortham Catholic Parishioners outing - 1925



Grape Picking at Quelltaler Vineyard c.1925



Foresters' hall, Watervale - 1925

Contact the Secretary for digital copies of photographs and any relevant names for a minimal cost.

## PETER DALLOW

It is with regret that MHHS advises of the passing of long-standing member Peter Dallow. Peter was born on the 29th July 1935 and died on 21st March 2025.

He is a descendant of the Green family from his mother's side, Evie Dallow (nee Green). Peter's family is also related to the families of David Spackman and Geraldine Pearce. The original 'Green' was John Green who accompanied John Horrocks on his journey to South Australia in 1839.

After his move from Adelaide to Spalding in the mid-north, Peter joined the Society in its early days. Although not an active member in his later years, he always took a keen interest in the work of the Society. He was involved in the unveiling of the commemorative stone at the entrance to the cottage in the late 1990s. Peter was my friend for 60 years, and I will miss him greatly. RIP Peter

Pam Datson (MHHS Committee Member)



Back L-R: Peter Dallow, David Spackman,  
Carol Richards,  
Lila Rosenzweig, Karen Trotta  
Front L-R: Justin Stone & his wife, Lisa Masters  
Taken at Ethel's Cottage, Leasingham 2023



## LAURIE DUKE

Laurie was a long-standing member of Mt Horrocks Historical Society and was descended from a well-known pioneering family of Penwortham. His ancestor Alfred Thomas Duke arrived in SA 1837 and soon made his home in Penwortham. Laurie took great interest in the Society and we have him to thank for much of the history of the Duke family we have in our Collection including the publication "*Distant Shores the Dukes of Penwortham*". The story of one such family member, Tommy Duke, can be seen on a storyboard on the Riesling Trail. Laurie was also of help in organising the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chapel-on-the-Hill in 2008

Mt Horrocks Historical Society owes Laurie a great deal and are saddened by his passing.



Laurie Duke & his wife



Des, Laurie & Kevin Duke unveiling the  
Tommy Duke Storyboard on the Riesling Trail



## Cottage Projects

**NEW ROOF:** The Society is in the process of seeking grants for the replacement of Horrocks Cottage roof. We all know of the significance of our 1839 pioneer cottage and its protection is paramount. A quote has been received and it is envisaged that a replacement roof could cost as much as \$50,000. Grants have been applied for as well as Council assistance.



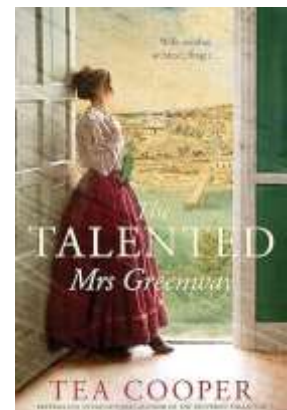
**PAVING:** Advice has been sought on improving the paving between the cottage and the Interpretive Centre. Two suggestions were made: Sand be placed in the gaps between the existing pavers – the most economical solution, or the pavers be replaced, a more expensive solution. This project will depend on the success of our grant applications for a new roof.

**NEW TOILET:** Discussions are ongoing as to the cost and merit of installing a new toilet at the cottage.

## Book Review

*"The Talented Mrs. Greenway"* by Tea Cooper is a historical novel set in 1814 Sydney, focusing on Mary Greenway, the wife of architect Francis Greenway. The story explores Mary's journey in colonial Sydney, her resilience, and her own creative passion as well as her friendship with Elizabeth Macquarie, wife of Governor Macquarie. Despite Francis Greenway's fame, the novel raises questions about whose hand truly shaped Sydney, suggesting Mary's influence was significant.

*There are many reviews of this novel to be found on line – far too many to mention here.*



President	Wendy Spackman (0417175234)	Newsletter: Jim Morran & Meredith McInnis
Vice-President	Meredith McInnis	Minute Secretary: Jim Morran
Secretary	Mal Paterson	Publicity: Meredith McInnis
Treasurer	David Spackman	Public Officer: David Spackman

**General Committee:** Eugenie Booth and Pam Datson

### Contact

**Secretary: Mal Paterson** - Phone: 8843 4123

Correspondence to: Secretary MHHS  
PO Box 38, WATERVALE, SA 5452

Email: [mhsinc@gmail.com](mailto:mhsinc@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.mthorrock.org](http://www.mthorrock.org)

**Research Officer:** Janet Morran - Phone: 0493 255357

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





**PENNY PRATT MP**  
**MEMBER FOR FROME**  
08 8842 3403 [frome@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:frome@parliament.sa.gov.au)  
153 Main North Road (PO Box 1242) Clare S453  
Shadow Minister for Regional Health Services  
Shadow Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention  
Shadow Minister for Ageing  
Shadow Minister for Tourism

 [penny\\_pratt\\_frome](https://www.instagram.com/penny_pratt_frome)  [PennyPrattFrame](https://www.facebook.com/PennyPrattFrame)

