



INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

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Our Christmas Lunch

19 November 2017

20 people came to our Christmas Lunch, with Council, Heritage Research Centre, Annie Doolans and the Museum all represented along with MHS at the Marion Sports Club. We had a great time, with good food, company and conversation.

As usual, the program for the following year was handed out at the lunch (Thank-you, John, for preparing that). This year we decided to do half a year at a time, as we had some difficulties in 2017 with people double-booking themselves due to the long notice. Booking half the year also makes it possible to take up opportunities for speakers who contact us, wanting to do a presentation. Be assured, though, that the year will be filled quite quickly.

Thanks to all members for your continuing support of MHS. We hope you had a Merry Christmas, and wish you a happy and prosperous 2018.

Looking forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Vale Arthur Beales

Since our last newsletter Arthur Beales has passed away. He was a long-time member of the historical society giving us two presentations over the years and a volunteer with the Marion Heritage Research Centre. His grandchildren spoke at his funeral telling us the life story of Arthur. They spoke of a loving man who grew up in rural Western Australia and excelled at his studies. As a young man he moved to South Australia where he met Elaine, married and moved to Marion. The grandchildren spoke proudly of this articulate man who had a very important job as an engineer with the

state government and was involved in many big projects over the years. They told us of his beloved garden and his wonderful produce that he kindly shared some of this with the volunteers at MHRC. We will miss Arthur at our meetings and send our kind thoughts and best wishes to Elaine.

From the Newspapers 100 Years Ago

An interesting perspective from country South Australia.

Narracoorte Herald (SA : 1875 - 1954), Tuesday 1 January 1918, page 3

The Old and New Year.

Notwithstanding that our nation is taking part in the biggest and most devilish war this world has ever seen Australians have had on the whole a remarkably prosperous and happy time during the year that has just passed away. We have to thank a beneficent Providence for much of the prosperity we have had during the year as the result of good seasons, and for casting our lines in pleasant places. We have also to thank the good old motherland for advancing millions to us in the purchase of our wool, wheat, and butter, and for purchasing our rabbits, jam, and other commodities. We have to thank the motherland most of all for the peace and security we have had throughout the year, while a great war is raging throughout the world, owing to the protection which her great navy has given to us. Any persons who do not value the beneficent manner in which the motherland has ministered to our prosperity and happiness during a war unexampled in the history of the world are unworthy of the unexceptional privileges conferred upon this land at a time when even neutral nations, let alone the nations which are at

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war, are in great stress for want of food, and for articles and raw material to carry on their industries. Australia has been blessed during the year, and it is to be hoped the magnificent treatment which is being meted out to her is not going to make her a spoilt child of fortune. For this happiness and prosperity we have enjoyed throughout the year that has passed away thousands of Australians have made sacrifices, but by far the larger number have had all the pleasures of home life, and the personal enjoyment of eating, drinking, and being merry. We cannot enjoy the peace and security we have had during the year that has gone unless we do something to show our gratitude for it. In other words, we cannot have continued peace and security without we do something to deserve it. It is a pity we should find it necessary to measure out our gratitude or bargain with our loyalty and patriotism at a time when our nation is in peril and needs the utmost support from all who shelter under its flag.

Generally speaking the seasons throughout the year have been good, but it has not on the whole been such a good season as last year. There has been abundance of feed, the price of sheep and cattle have been unprecedented in the history of Australia, and astonishing prices have been realised for all descriptions of wool. We owe these big prices to the motherland. In many places there was too much rain during the winter, and generally speaking the cereal crops will not be so heavy as last year. Locally it has been a good season for stock, but it has not been a good season for crops owing to the wet winter. The hay crop has also been poor compared with the two former years. Fortunately all our farmers keep sheep, and they have shared in the high prices for sheep and wool. Many of them also have gone in for a little dairying, and the prices for such produce has been good. However, we have much to be thankful for in comparison with the rest of the world, and especially in those countries where the horrors of war have been felt. If

a few enemy warships came along and bombarded some of our metropolises and took a large quantity of gold we would have some idea of what war is and be ready to show our thankfulness for our peace and security. Even a few hundred aeroplanes bombing our towns would give us a little idea of how thankful we should be for our security so far from the horrors of war.

We feel loath to venture on any speculation as to what the New Year will bring to us. There is no use flattering ourselves that the future is bright. We can only wish that the New Year will be as prosperous and happy for us as the last; that our loyalty and patriotism to our nation and country will have one clear note which will not be mistaken or need any subterfuges to explain; and that before it ends peace will have come with victory for our nation and our Allies.

News from the Marion Heritage Research Centre

Hello from the MHRC for 2018!

We always re-open after Christmas around mid-January and are beautifully air-conditioned, so think of us next time you are looking for something to do on a hot Adelaide summer's afternoon. ☺ Watch out for our events in the Marion libraries' What's On! booklet, the local newspaper or this newsletter. Featuring talks on SA land records, this year.

For more information on the Heritage Research Centre please call on 7420 6455.

Marion Historical Society

**Our next meeting will take place on
Wednesday 21th March 2018
7.30pm at Cooina**

Professor Kay Whitehead

**Early Schools run by Women in
Adelaide and its Suburbs**

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