



**Our May Meeting**  
*Cancelled due to Covid-19*

**Our excursion in July is ON!**

**A Quiz Question**  
*How well do you know your  
South Australian History?*

When was the first bridge built over the lower  
Murray and where?

### **The Marion district's vine history**

Within 25 years of Europeans arriving in Adelaide, the Marion district had become known for its vineyards. Three of the properties noted for their grapes and wine production were Fairford (later known as Laffer's Triangle and now by the Kaurna term Warriparinga), Oaklands Estate and the Hamilton properties east and west of Morphett Road – Curtis Farm and Ewell respectively – which became known collectively as Ewell.

During the decades since World War II most of the vineyards on the southern Adelaide plains have been replaced by housing, roads, schools, call centres, swimming pools and a bus depot. It is serendipitous that the remnant vines on those three historic properties have ended up on Council land and are still growing. Lobbying by community members and wine industry figures over the years has helped to ensure that the vines owned by the City of Marion have not been pulled out. Now they are also being professionally cared for.

The Marion district is lucky to have one of Australia's last remaining suburban wineries. A vineyard and winery were established by Giovanni Patrilli in the 1920s in what is now called Dover Gardens. Although the Dover Gardens vineyards were lost to schools and housing, Patrilli's four children continued to run the winery after his death and now his grandson James Mungall is one of the two winemakers there.

The Patrilli winery has been managing the former

## **INFORMATION NEWSLETTER**

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Hamilton vineyard on Oaklands Road since 2006. In March 2019, the Marion Council called for tenders for the management of that vineyard and the other two, and the Patrilli winery was awarded the contract for another five years.

### **A new sign ...**

In November 2019 Cr Bruce Hull proposed that Council staff should investigate options for appropriate signage to recognise the historical significance of the former Hamilton vineyard on Oaklands Road. In February 2020 council approved the expenditure of a relatively small sum from the existing 2019–20 budget to re-purpose the brick wall which stands at the front of the vineyard with 'City of Marion Swimming Centre' on it. That sign can be replaced because a more prominent LED sign advertising the swimming centre has been in place since 2016. Since March 2020, Council staff have been working on a concise set of words which conveys the significance of the site. Heather Latz of the Marion Historical Society and Danielle Trewartha of the Marion Heritage Research Centre have been consulted in an effort to ensure that the words are accurate.

### **... and a new wine**

For several years, the Patrilli winemakers have been producing the Marion Vineyard Grenache Shiraz from grapes they tend in the former Hamilton vineyard on Oaklands Road. Those vines are over 110 years old. This year, James Mungall and Ben Heide have produced a new wine, called April Red, from handpicked Grenache grapes from the Marion Vineyard co-fermented with whole bunches of Pedro Ximénez from the vines at Warriparinga, which are at least 50 years old. During May, on the winery's Facebook page, James excitedly described the wine-making process and the connections between this wine, Marion's history and his own family history.

Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MarionHistoricalSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/MarionHistoricalSociety/)



James Mungall making April Red – Source: Patritti Wines Facebook page.

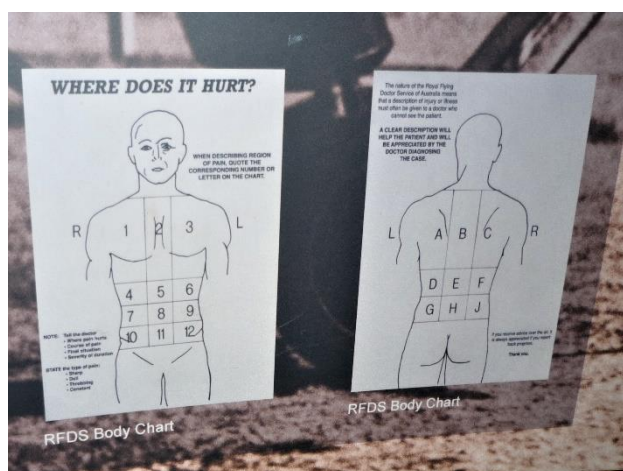
### The Royal Flying Doctor Service

Starting life in 1928 as the ‘Aerial Medical Service’ (AMS) in Queensland the name was changed to the ‘Australian Aerial Medical Service’ (AAMS) in 1934 when it developed into a national service. The name was again changed in 1942 to the ‘Flying Doctor Service (FDS).

The extraordinary work of the flying doctors was recognised in 1955 when the prefix ‘Royal’ was granted by Queen Elizabeth II.

The aerial medical services were made possible by advances in technology, with the pedal powered two-way radio becoming iconic in the history of the service.

Far away from high technology is the “Where does it hurt” chart, designed in 1951, so simple, but how clever.



This enabled the doctor and patient to reach a common understanding of the location of a problem.

Standardised medical chests were introduced in 1939 to outback stations to enable people to carry out self-treatment. The medical chest contained drugs, medicines, instruments and equipment to

treat the most commonly diagnosed illnesses and complaints.

All the contents were numbered to avoid confusion in the tablets to be taken or instructions for the treatment.



### Answer to the Quiz Question

The first bridge was built over the lower Murray in 1879 at Edward’s Crossing, which is now part of Murray Bridge.

**News from the Marion Heritage Research Centre**  
*Exciting news! The Marion Heritage Research Centre re-opened to the public on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June. Some restrictions are in place but there will be staff on duty every day (Monday to Wednesday) to assist you. We are looking forward to seeing our visitors again.*

*Remember, we are still able to help with your historical queries via phone 7420 6455 or email [heritage@marion.sa.gov.au](mailto:heritage@marion.sa.gov.au)*

*PS: Ancestry Library Edition has now extended their free access to One Card card holders until the end of June.*

*Keep well, stay safe & welcome back! Danielle*

### Marion Historical Society Next meeting:

*July 15<sup>th</sup> – A guided excursion at West Terrace Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. No charge. Please wear sturdy walking shoes.*

*Please advise the secretary at [marionhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:marionhistoricalsociety@gmail.com) or call Ian on 8298 5585 if you wish to attend. It is essential that we have your contact details in case there are any late changes to plans.*

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