



INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

Number 130 – September 2019

Contacts Mandy Coote 0401 540 024
 Ian Morphet 8298 5585

marionhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Our August Meeting Heidi Ing – Early SA Colonists (1836) and their Descendants.

We had a very interesting talk from Heidi Ing on the occupational movements of those who arrived on the first six ships bound for South Australia in 1836, described at the time as South Australia's 'First Expedition'.

The ships, sent by the South Australia Company and the South Australian Commissioners, arrived at Nepean Bay, Kangaroo Island. These ships were John Pirie, Duke of York, Lady Mary Pelham, Emma, Cygnet and Rapid, all leaving England between February and May, and arriving between July and October in 1836.

Among the passengers there were those of 'superior class' (whose passage was not defrayed by the Emigration Fund) and the 'labouring class'. In total, the 245 people who arrived on those six ships were: 84 labourers with 27 children; 37 colonists with 12 children and 85 crew.

Heidi's task was to track down these people and their descendants to find who stayed in South Australia, who went to other Australian colonies and who went overseas. This would be no small task, as most of the passenger lists have not survived. There is, however, other documentary evidence to indicate who most of those passengers were. The photographic mosaics by Duryea and Jones of the old colonists show a great many of these pioneers' faces.

In the second generation there were 248 females and 231 males, with 303 married (63%), 68 singles (14.1%), 91 died as children (18.9%) and 19 could not be found. As far as Heidi had been able to ascertain to date, 73% remained in South Australia, 17.9% went to other Australian colonies and 4% went overseas to New Zealand, United States and United Kingdom.

Now on Facebook – Type in ["www.facebook.com/MarionHistoricalSociety/"](http://www.facebook.com/MarionHistoricalSociety/) and Please **"Like us on Facebook"**

In the third generation there were 811 females and 840 males, with 1058 married (64%), 293 singles (17.7%) and 251 died as children (15.2%). Heidi found 63.2% of the third generation in South Australia, 28.1% elsewhere in Australia and 6.2% overseas. The grandchildren of the 1836 arrivals could be found in South Africa, Zimbabwe, India and Portugal as well as New Zealand, United States and United Kingdom.

As well as the geographical movements, which were usually connected with occupational opportunities, there were also movements in the occupational class of many of the descendants: improving their skills, becoming property owners and moving into more middle-class occupations.

One of the initial promoters of South Australia, Richard Davies Hanson (later Premier and Chief Justice of South Australia) promoted the opportunities for occupational mobility that would be available in the new colony. He claimed that,

"Many minds whose growth while in England has been restrained, and like young trees in a forest kept down by the overshadowing of the others, will then rise and expand. Openings will be afforded for talent of every class..."

By the time Heidi has completed her thesis she hopes to have discovered if these promises for occupational advancement were experienced by the initial settler-colonists to arrive in South Australia.

Oaklands Estate redevelopment

As well as being an important area for the original inhabitants of this land, Oaklands Park was the site of one of Adelaide's earliest grand houses, built by Samuel Kearne in 1844 with materials he brought out from England. Kearne

planted oak trees and named the property Oaklands (hence the later naming of the railway station and suburb). Luckily, he and subsequent owners retained many of the huge gum trees on the property. The grand house was demolished in the 1960s, but several signs of European and Kaurna occupation remained.

In 2013 and 2014, members of the Marion Historical Society participated in community consultation about the Oaklands Estate Reserve redevelopment with the aim of ensuring that items of Kaurna and European historical significance were preserved and interpreted for the information of current and future generations.

Work on the area was undertaken in stages over several years, and the final stage was officially opened in May 2019. There are lots of positives, e.g. new plantings, new play areas, the ‘ephemeral river’, new artistic interpretations of Kaurna shields, and the preservation of the non-Indigenous trees that give a hint that a European mansion and garden was constructed on Kaurna land.

However, almost all of the previous informative signage has been removed, as has the last visible remnant of the Oaklands homestead (the outbuilding floor); the ‘peg tree’ has been heavily pruned and most of the steel pegs have been removed; and the new signs that have been erected are much more atmospheric than informative.

The Secretary of the Marion Historical Society has recently emailed City of Marion staff and elected members asking for the addition of at least one sign with a photograph of the mansion and some text explaining, in plain English, some of the history of the site.

From the Newspapers 100 Years Ago

Package tourism is not new!

*Southern Cross (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1954),
Friday 19 September 1919, page 8*

THE GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU.

TOURS ON THE COUPON SYSTEM.

CAPTAIN BUTLER INTERESTS

YOU IN AVIATION.

Now on Facebook – Type in
Please “Like us on Facebook”

Flying, however, has not yet become the recognised mode of conveyance. In the meantime the Government Tourist Bureau wants to secure your interest in travelling by railway, steamship, motor car, and coach on the tours which have been organised to the chief holiday and health resorts.

THE SOUTH-EAST DISTRICT.

Mount Gambier, Narracoorte Caves, Beachport, Robe, &c.—Tours from one week to one month. Fares cover hotel and all travelling expenses.

AUSTRALIA'S MONARCH STREAM.

Now is the season to visit the River Murray. Combined rail and steamer tickets to Renmark, Mildura, and Swan Hill.

.....

Consult the

GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU,

King William Street, for further particulars.

Phone Central 2588.

VICTOR H. RYAN,

Director

News from the Marion Heritage Research Centre

The MHRC is open throughout the year except January, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10am - 4pm. Visitors are always welcome and there is plenty to keep you interested.

Watch out for our events in the Marion Libraries’ What’s On! booklet, the local newspaper or this newsletter.

Tuesday 22nd October: ‘Southern Africa: Where history & nature meet’ talk by Major Chris Roe.

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

Marion Historical Society

**Our next meeting will take place on
Wednesday 16th October 2019
7.30pm at Coinda**

Cheryl Williss (Pioneers Association)

*The Women of the Nine Ships Arriving in the
Province of South Australia in 1836.*

“www.facebook.com/MarionHistoricalSociety/” and