

SALISBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2020



Salisbury & District Historical Society Inc.
3 Ann St Salisbury

Museum Open— 2pm-4pm on the 1st Sunday of the month

Water Wheel Open—2pm-4pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month

These times may vary due to long weekends and school holidays.

The Museum and Water Wheel visits can be arranged at other times,
please contact the President on 0408086545

2020 General Meetings & Activities

February 15th Saturday 9am

Working Bee — Clean-up at Museum

March 11th Wednesday 7pm

Pamela Rajkowski "The First Cameleer Settlers"

the first author to research the history of the Afghan cameleers of Australia

April 5th Sunday 12pm

Picnic on the lawns at rear of Museum

May 17th Sunday 1:30pm

History Month Salisbury walk

June 10th Wednesday 7pm

Keith Ellison "Ferry Sound Industry, Radio & Magnetic Recording"

July 15th Wednesday 10am (Note daytime Meeting)

Rachael Harris "Women in WW2 in SA including Munition workers at Penfield"

October 14th Wednesday 7pm AGM

"Show & Tell"

December 6th Sunday 12:30pm

Christmas Luncheon (details to be advised)

Committee Meetings 7pm on Thursday:

Feb 6th, April 2nd, June 4th, Aug 6th, Oct 1st & Nov 5th

Report from the President – Des Brown

Greetings, as we commence a new year and another decade.

Our program has commenced with our annual busy bee where a good team of members gathered to give our museum a clean up and incorporated some of the furniture items we were granted from the Salisbury Council's move to the new Community Hub.



It was great to witness history in the making with the opening of our new Salisbury Community Hub in December last year and I have heard nothing but praise for the new centre since its opening. The new building has a warm community feel and the upgrade of the old Methodist Cemetery adds to the very pleasant surroundings.

Our program for 2020 is detailed on the opposite page with our first general meeting on Wednesday March 11th when Pamela Rajkowski will share her research on the history of the Afghan cameleers in Australia.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this and the other general meetings we have planned for the year.

President's Stop Press — Kadina & Wallaroo Times Saturday 26th July 1941

“Salisbury News—Our Salisbury correspondent writes:

The Rev W Williams of Gawler conducted a memorial service at the Salisbury Congregational Church to the late Mr A T Middleton, who was a constant attendant of the church since he came down this way from Willamulka in 1901.

Mr Origen Hooper (78) who passed on last week was born in Salisbury. He had an orangery and orchard against the creek, by Nash's old brewery bridge (Parabanks eastern carpark). For years he carted all his fruit down to the Port with horses and later motor lorry. His wife Miss Priscilla Paternoster, died about 10 years ago.

The Salisbury District Council elections passed off very quickly ... At the first meeting of the new Council Mr H Martin (West Ward) was appointed chairman. The clerk (Mr E J Brown) was again chosen for the same job and Miss M Potter as assistant clerk and typist. The town is going ahead rapidly and the work was too much for Mr Brown, so the Council decided to obtain the assistance of a young person to help with the accounts and act as typist, registering of dogs and other wild animals etc.”

Telling Highway - Gluepot Stories (Middleton, Coleman)

The Middleton family have a long association with Salisbury. William Middleton arrived in South Australia from Durham, England in 1850. His children, John and Thomas, were foundation members of the first Congregational Church (Providence Chapel) which opened in Salisbury in 1858. Later, brothers Arthur T. and George E. Middleton bought over 800 acres of scrubland in the Hundred of Ninnes on the Yorke Peninsula. In James Potters' account of early Methodism in Salisbury, the name John Middleton appeared in 1853 (*Little Para Pilgrims* 1997) as did other 19th century names like A. E. Middleton, Thomas and William Middleton. (*"Be Still, A History of the Congregational Church and Ferguson Memorial - United and Uniting Church in Salisbury," James Potter - 1996*).



Middleton St. / Glue Pot Rd. Mr Geoff Colman's home. Today's Salisbury Highway.

The Middleton family owned a sizable slice of land that stretched from the railway line to the north and western side of land that fronted onto Middleton Street, today's Salisbury Highway. The Middleton family were always loyal and generous supporters of the church. Arthur and George had assisted with the Bible Christian Methodist Chapel at Willamulka on the Peninsula. Mr A. T. Middleton who farmed at Willamulka had returned to the old home on Para Plains in 1901. (*Kadina Wallaroo Times*, 5 July 1941 and 23 July 1943)



*"An allotment of land in the new Middleton subdivision was given by Messrs G. E. and A and Miss A. L. Middleton to the church for the purpose of building a new church."
(Congregational)*

("Be Still", James Potter, Salisbury and District Historical Society Inc, March 1996.)

On April 23, 1927 at 2.30 pm, the 50 acres of Middleton Estate off Middleton St, was divided into 18 blocks and put up for auction. (*S.A. Register 14 April 1927*) The brochure described the blocks as, *"very desirable, well drained blocks in a most bracing and healthful surrounding"*. Early in the twentieth century valuable land owned by the Middleton family was put up for sale in Salisbury, *"And was a first class investment with crystal clear water approximately 30 feet below the surface"*. It urged the prospective buyer --*"secure for your boy!!!"*

It also included two blocks in the recently subdivided new Salisbury section on the northern side of today's highway. A marquee was set up and tea was available for one shilling in aid of the building fund for the new Congregational church. The new church on the northern side of Middleton St was opened in 1928. Before his death in 1941 A. T. Middleton purchased a block of land for a residence in Middleton Estate. George E. Middleton who had been on Yorke Peninsula and who wrote regular articles for the 'Kadina and Wallaroo Times' also returned to Salisbury and occupied a home on Spains Road with Miss A.T. Middleton

In 1944 Miss Middleton offered to donate land for a church Manse and she also assisted with the building of a church hall.

Dick and Linda Middleton also lived on Spains Rd, two blocks towards the Chidda rail station and near the home of Mr Geoff Coleman. Both of these families supported the Congregational church on Middleton Street and with a single block of land separating them they often found themselves recalling early identities, for example, Norm Barker and Fred 'Shoddy' Brown, (brother to the Council Clerk), Miss Sandercock the school teacher, Ben Chapman, Harold Heddle and others.



A Glue Pot became a Highway

According to Mr Geoff Coleman there were at least two very bad roads in Salisbury. One was north where the Holden's Factory was later located, up Dicky Judd's road. The other was the extension of Middleton St from Kings Road to the Port Wakefield Road, **aptly** named "Glue Pot Road" and today known as Salisbury Highway.

The Middleton's used the Glue Pot in summer to go to St Kilda, but only in summer because in winter it would turn into a thick sticky, blue looking, clay mud.

Later, Middleton Street was built up and metalled. It was in the 1950s that the Salisbury Council urged the Government to bituminise the entire Middleton St and 'Glue Pot' Road and to declare it as a main road. This was thought necessary at the time to relieve the heavy traffic on the Main North Rd. (*Advertiser Friday 16th November 1951*)

The Coleman, Middleton, Glue Pot Connection

Samson Coleman (b1885 Nailsworth), his wife Hilda Pratt and their six surviving children including two sons, Harold and Geoffrey became well known identities of Salisbury. *(Little is known of an earlier Robert William Coleman born in Salisbury in 1851 who left when he was 25 years of age.)* In various ways Samson Coleman and his sons set themselves to harvest the sand and clay soils of the Salisbury Plain.

In early times Samson Coleman would ride his bike every day from Salisbury to the Hallett Brick Co. at Hindmarsh. It was a valuable early experience of the industry for Samson, although riding a bike over that distance on very rough tracks did have its hazards. One day Samson arrived home covered in blood and carrying the front wheel of his bike. He had come an 'almighty cropper' on the track and suffered bruises and painful abrasions. The family responded promptly by taking him to Semaphore beach so he could experience the soothing, healing power of salt water.

The Coleman home was later located towards the end of Gawler Street and next to the site of the old Mono Para Flour Mill that had burnt down on 25th January 1915

Geoff Colman was about 11 years old when the family arrived in Salisbury and his working life commenced at the age of 13 when he was employed at Burford's Soap Factory. He would catch the train at Salisbury and travel to Dry Creek where he earned 18 shillings and 7 pence a week.



Samson, the father began a carting business with his boys in the days of the depression and it became known as Harold & Geoff Coleman Bros.

(The Reid family, like the Coleman brothers, also developed a carting business.) The transition from horse transport to the new motorised world took a little adjusting too. A solid wheel International truck was purchased and to get it to stop moving forward the driver needed to ease the speed down then jump out and block the front wheel with a piece of wood.

The first carting job was at Mannanar beyond Jamestown. With a reliable 'Indiana' truck people soon got to know the Coleman brothers.

With progress came the Indiana and 'Brockway' cable tip truck. This heavy truck was sometimes used for pulling boxthorns out. The key to the business was finding a cheap source of sand and metal. A pit was found near Penfield and the brothers carted sand for the establishment of the Government Munition Works (Weapons Research Establishment) and later the runway of the Edinburgh Air Field.

Working with their father, the men became 'long handle' and 'short handle' shovel specialists. With an elevator it took four men with shovels to load the truck. Another pit was established on the property of Mr Barker at St Kilda. By this time two tipper trucks were operating. 'Bedford' trucks, an 'Albion' diesel and a front end loader were being used. The business was wound up in 1958 and Geoff Coleman, with the help of his old employer, Mr Ron Moss, who was then a District Councillor, found him some general maintenance work with the Salisbury Council. Geoffrey Coleman died on 7th April 1997 and was interned at the Spains Rd cemetery.

E.A. (Ted) Curnow. July 2016

***This record is the result of an oral / noted interview in 1995 between
Rev E.A. (Ted) Curnow and Mr Geoffrey Raymond Coleman (b 1911-1997)
(To reflect an accurate account oral sources often need further verification.)***

"Australia Day" Procession
WW1 Support
Mr T. Tate's "T" Model Ford
Wiltshire St.
July 1918



SALISBURY PARADE ALBUM

"Australia Day" Procession
WW1 Support
Wiltshire St.
July 1918



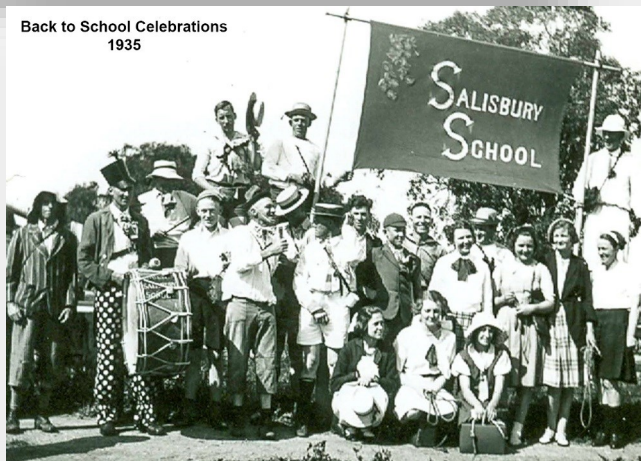
"Australia Day" Procession
WW1 Support
arriving Salisbury Oval
July 1918



Oddfellow Lodge
75th year Celebration
Procession
Commercial Rd.
site of old Coach & Horse Hotel
1929



Back to School Celebrations
1935



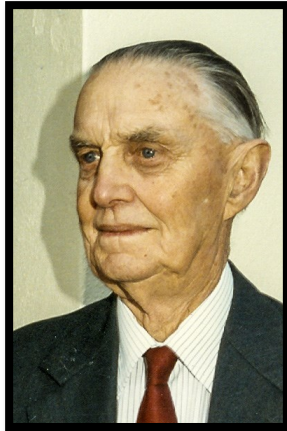
SA Centenary Celebrations
Procession
School Children
John St
Sept 1936



Over the next few Newsletters we intend to list the Salisbury's Landmark Dates 1800's -1900's 1800's

1836	South Australia Proclamation
1839	John Harvey immigrates to South Australia
	Travellers Rest Inn (Old Spot Hotel) established
	J Harvey established a Mail & Transportation business from Adelaide to Gawler
1843	John Harvey marries Ann Pitman
1844	J Harvey & Ann take over Travellers Rest Inn
1846	Hundred of Yatala Proclaimed
1847	J Harvey purchased section 2191 of the Hundred of Yatala
1848	Section 2191 subdivided by J Harvey and he called the new village "Salisbury"
	J Harvey has the Salisbury Hotel built (New Road Inn)
1850	Post Office established in Salisbury
	Church of England commences building on Mary St
1851	Primitive Methodist Church build on John St
	Catholic Church foundation stone laid
1853	District Council of Yatala proclaimed
1854	Munno Para West District Council proclaimed
	J Harvey's subdivision of Salisbury deposited in General Registry Office
	Dr J Fisher Salisbury's first official doctor
1856	First steam train arrives at Salisbury
1857	Governor MacDonald Hotel opened
1858	Police Station & Court House commenced in Ann St
	Methodist Hephzibah Church built in John St
	Wesleyan Methodist Church opened in Chapel St
	Stone Bridge built over Little Para River at Main North Rd
1865	St John's Church opened
1868	Yatala North District Council proclaimed first Meeting Governor MacDonnell Hotel
1873	St Kilda surveyed and proclaimed
1875	Schooling became compulsory
1877	Salisbury Public School opened on Mary St
1878	E Paternoster establishes an implement & manufacturing business
1879	Teachers residence built on Ann St
1880	Additional classroom added to Public School
1881	Governor MacDonald Hotel burnt
1884	Institute building constructed
1898	Angas Home for the deaf established

Salisbury Past Residents



Harry Lyle Bowey

- Mr. Harry Bowey was born at Golden Grove on 13th February 1907. He was a farmer and cattle breeder at Salisbury Heights winning many prizes at local shows for his Jersey cattle.
- He married Elizabeth Gwendolyn Harvey (great granddaughter of John Harvey) on 7/2/1931.
- He was elected to council (West Ward) in 1953.
- Offices he held in the district included, President of the Local Government Association, Chairman of Lyell McEwen Hospital, President of the E.F.S. and Chairman of Central Districts Football Club. He was Chairman of the Salisbury District Council from 1957 to 1961 and Mayor of the City of Salisbury from 1965 to 1978.
- In 1978 he was awarded an O.B.E. in recognition of his services to Local Government.
He passed away on 8th February 1997 at the age of 89 having served on the City of Salisbury Council for 25 years.



Salisbury & District Historical Society Inc.

PO Box 838, Salisbury, SA, 5108

*The Salisbury & District Historical Society was established in 1981.
The Society was formed to promote the discussion and study of South Australian
and Australian history, particularly within The District of Salisbury.*

*Other tasks include the collection, recording and classification of works, source
material of all kinds relating to the history of the District of Salisbury and to
facilitate access to the collection by the community.*

SDHS Committee 2020

President:	Des Brown	0408086545
Vice President:	Delwyn Ayling	
Secretary:	Lynette Potter	
Treasurer:	Jan & Hugh Tonkin	
Salisbury Council Rep:	Shiralee Reardon	

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and Alice Foster

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and Des Brown

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Disclaimer:

Views and opinions expressed in the Salisbury Historical Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Salisbury and District Historical Society Inc.

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the articles printed, responsibility is not accepted for any errors they may contain that are out of our control.

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Photo Gallery: - www.flickr.com/photos/sdhsphotos/

*Our Newsletter is printed courtesy of the Office of the
Hon Zoe Bettison MP, Member for Ramsay*

We recognise the Kurna Aboriginal People as the Traditional Owners of the Adelaide Plains in South Australia