

SALISBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 40 years of "keeping alive the history of Salisbury"



MARCH 2021



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

General Meetings and Activities

February 28th Sunday 12:30pm

AGM and Luncheon

March 20th Saturday 9:30am

Clean up and Sausage Sizzle

April 21st Wednesday 7:00pm*

Alice Foster "Life on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal"

May 16th Sunday 1:30pm

History Month Salisbury walk

June 16th Wednesday 7:00pm*

Keith Ellison "Ferry Sound Industry"

August 18th Wednesday 7:00pm*

Paul Harvey "John Harvey"

October 20th Wednesday 7:00pm AGM

"Show & Tell"

December 5th Sunday 12:30pm

Christmas Luncheon (details to be advised)

***Please note - the General Meetings on April 21st, June 16th and August 18th will be held at the Salisbury Institute, Wiltshire St.**

Committee Meetings 7pm on

*January 20th, April 15th, June 10th, August 12th, October 14th
and November 18th*

Report from the President – Des Brown

Greetings, I trust you are all well as we try and get back to some form of normality in 2021; it's an important time for our Society as we celebrate our 40th year!

As you may be aware we held our AGM for 2020 at the Salisbury North Football Club in February this year, following an enjoyable luncheon



Reports of the President and Treasurer were tabled, noting copies had been distributed to financial members in November 2020 and included in the 2020 December newsletter.

All positions were declared vacant and Mr James Potter chaired the election of offices. James thanked the past committee and the following are those elected for 2021:

Vice President	<i>Delwyn Ayling</i>
Treasurers	<i>Jan & Hugh Tonkin</i>
Secretary	<i>Lynette Potter</i>
Committee Members:	<i>Jim Trenorden, Glenyss Trenorden, Jennifer Paine, Alice Foster, Raelene Brown, Simon Hale, Tanya Paine (Newsletter proof reader)</i>
Auditor	<i>Anna Gordon</i>
Council Rep	<i>Shiralee Reardon (Salisbury Council Rep)</i>

The program for 2021 was distributed at the AGM and can be seen on the opposite page.

Please note that due to Covid distancing requirements, we are planning to hold our general meeting in the Salisbury Institute. Our Society now has a Covid plan and QR codes for the Folk Museum and Water Wheel Museum.

Our next event is the annual busy bee at the Folk Museum; I hope you can come along and help. We plan to hold a sausage sizzle for all those attending.

I trust each of you are able to be involved in the coming year and help "Keep alive the History of Salisbury"

President's Stop Press — Chronicle 10th Oct 1946

Church Celebrates Centenary

"The Church of St John the Evangelist, Salisbury is celebrating its centenary.....

At the Sunday morning service the church was so crowded that seats had to be brought from the hall.... After the service about 200 people sat down to a parish breakfast at which a large cake surrounded by 100 candles was cut. Mrs Urlwin who is the oldest member was to have cut the cake, but fell while getting out of the car and had to be taken to hospital... However, the cake was taken to her at the hospital, and she made the first cut before it was distributed."

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST, SALISBURY

The original church building of St. John has an uncertain date. Inscribed above the door is the date 1846, however, various local historians claimed that the land was given by John Harvey in November 1850 but a newspaper article in 'The Register' claims that Bishop Short consecrated the small church building on the 1st October, 1848.



The building, which fronts Mary Street, was primarily constructed of clay brick. It had a chimney and was intended to have a multi-purpose use: church, school and overnight stop for the visiting priest. The building could

hold a congregation of up to 100 and would have been a place of fellowship and moral support for the families as they faced the trials and tribulations of the time.

Following are some of the prominent families who worshipped in the Church, including some of the early Anglican settlers:

- John Harvey, arrived in Salisbury in October 1839 and later purchased the land upon which the church stands
- John Fisher, arrived in Salisbury in 1851 and was one of Salisbury's first doctors
- Frances Fenden, arrived in Salisbury in 1837 and carted the stone for the church
- Joseph Broadstock, originally arrived in Australia in 1833 and came to Salisbury in 1849 taking over the license of the Old Spot Hotel
- Charles Taplin, his wife Eliza and sons arrived in Salisbury some time before 1855 and was church Treasurer
- Reuben Richardson, arrived in Salisbury in 1840, was in the police force for a few years then took up farming near Goulds Creek, One Tree Hill.



Due to the increasing size of the congregation it was decided that a new larger church must be built and on Tuesday 17th August, 1858 the foundation-stone of the new St. John the Evangelist Church was laid by the Right Reverend Lord Bishop of Adelaide.



By May 1865 the exterior of the church had been completed though a solid floor or ceiling had yet to be installed inside the building.

Regardless, the church was opened for divine worship and His Lordship the Bishop of Adelaide and the Rev. Messrs. Craig, Green, Poltt and Canon Coombs took part in the consecration service. A

chancel was added to the church building, the foundation stone, donated by Mr A. Urlwin, was laid on 30th July 1896 by the South Australian Governor, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Bart. The building of the chancel was completed in 1902. The church was built in gothic style with stone procured from the Adelaide Hills. The roof had an open and hammer-beamed structure which permitted a totally unobstructed view of the triple lancet window in the chancel, and the double lancet window facing it over the entry. The altar was given by the Rev. B. Craig, the font was donated by Mr Brooks. The double lancet window over the entrance contained the arms of the Lord Bishop and those of the episcopal See quartered with those of Mrs Burdett-Coutts. In addition there were several bier-graphic designs symbolic of St. John the Saviour and eternity, the whole being surmounted with a crest. The baptismal window and the



“In Memoriam” window were all presented by friends of the church. The window west of the “In Memoriam” window contained a number of beautifully executed etchings paid for by contributions of the Sunday School children.

After completion of the church there was still a need for a parish rectory and a parish hall. The foundations for the rectory were laid in 1893

and it took 10 years to build. In 1927 the foundation stone was laid for the Parish Hall and in June 1937 the annex was added to provide a supper room for the parish, a gift from Mr Henry Bussenschutt.

There were many social activities such as, Mothers’ Union, Sunday School picnics, strawberry fetes, a ladies’ visiting group and fortnightly Euchre evenings, and a tennis club. In 1945 and 1965 centenary dedication festivals were held followed by parish breakfasts in the parish hall. In 1951 the local people took part in a linked-towns broadcast on the ABC and spoke to the people at Salisbury, Wiltshire, England.

During the broadcast it was suggested that a piece of stone from the Salisbury Cathedral should be sent to the Anglican Church in Salisbury, South Australia. Miss H Pitman, a relative of the descendants of Mr John Harvey, was going to England on family business and it was decided that she would collect the stone while in England. This stone was



fixed to the north side of the chancel arch and blessed by the Bishop of Adelaide, the Right Rev. B.P. Robin in May 1955.

On Tuesday the 7th March, 1989 St. John's Church was gutted by fire. The fire was put down to arson but the police were never able to pin down a suspect. The blaze left nothing except the four stone walls and services were conducted in the parish hall.

In 1997 building of the auditorium commenced with the ground blessed by the Rev. Bart O'Donovan. The foundation stone was blessed by Archbishop Ian George on the 7th April 1997 and put in place by Church Wardens Rex Edwards and Max Lennard and eight months later in October, 1997 the auditorium was consecrated by Archbishop Ian George.

In 1998 preparations began for the restoration of the damaged church using funds from the sale of various church properties. On Sunday 6th May 2001 the former St. John's Church was re-dedicated as the Chapel of Our Lady and St. John by the Archbishop of Adelaide, Ian George.



Submitted by Alice Foster, referencing St. John Parish archives.



Salisbury Australia Day Celebrations

July 1918

Wiltshire St



*If you wish to see more historical photographs, please refer to our
Flickr account www.flickr.com/photos/sdhsphotos and select the "Album" option*

The Story of a Road

The positive outcomes of service, research and philanthropy mark significant developments in cultures and environments. Could the story of a “road” illustrate these developments? Perhaps my personal, close connection with a little used country road that has become a busy urban thoroughfare may be such a story.

For the sake of general identity, early surveyed roads in South Australia were often labelled “Government Road” and such a road existed in Salisbury for more than a century. The straight road turning east from the northern end of Fenden Road and terminating at the Main North Road had such a name. Why that road remained anonymous for such a long time when accompanying roads, Fenden (Francis Fenden is buried in the St John’s Cemetery, Salisbury) and Goddard were named is strange. Goddard is presumed to have had family or geographical associations with John Harvey, the founder of Salisbury.

William Edgar Saint purchased the property bounded by Main North Road, Government Road and Fenden Road in 1925. He had previously owned a property at Willochra on the Willochra Plain, a property he inherited with his brother Tom while he served in the 27th Battalion in France during WWI. He called his occupation “Farmer and Grazier” and used the Salisbury property as a mixed farm with dairy, sheep, cropping, fowls and at times, pigs. Farm paddocks against Government Road were called Camp, Night and three small areas used for hay stacks, occasional free range for pigs and short stay purposes for horses and calves. Camp paddock got its name after a mounted citizen army unit used the area for a week long bivouac in about 1931. Night paddock was a smaller area into which the cows were often turned at night. A mighty, noble gum tree grew in the corner of the small paddock at the corner of Government Road and Fenden Road.

On the northern side of Government Road, Colin Harvey (descendant of John Harvey, founder of Salisbury) owned the land from Main North Road to Goddard Road and Gordon Jenkins (chairman of the Salisbury District Council for a number of years) owned the land from Goddard Road to Fenden Road. There were few features along the length of the road. On the northern side about 300 metres from the Main North Road was a small empty hay stack yard with gum trees, and a huge gum tree grew in the corner of Government Road and Goddard Road. On the southern side, wire gates led into the Camp Paddock and a small haystack yard near the farm buildings. The road serviced no houses.

“Government Road” was rarely used because there was little population to its east and Park Terrace was a preferred access to Salisbury from the Main North Road. My father used it rarely to access the Camp paddock and to farm leased Harvey land.

The middle of the road was macadamised which meant that it was laid with stone and hence an all-weather road. Unless regularly graded, these roads develop pot holes where stone has been removed so that the surface is rough and water gathers in the holes after rain. Traffic that is meeting, spray water against each other as pot holes are hit. Later I will recall the only time I can remember the road being graded. In brief, it was a stone made road, poorly maintained.

For about two metres from each side boundary, thick artichokes grew along the whole length of the road. Towards the end of summer when paddock feed was exhausted, my father would cut the artichokes along the night paddock fence and throw them over the fence as feed for the cows. The artichokes soon grew again from their sturdy roots. Our family did not use artichokes as a food and I remember being surprised when migrants from European countries after WW2 harvested them. On the southern side between the made road and the artichokes, a narrow unmade track was preferred especially for moving farm machinery.

I remember rather fondly using the road when my father leased Harvey's land and I helped load hay on a trolley pulled by two horses. With a full load, we would enter the road through the hay stack gate mentioned before and travel to the hay stack yard at the corner of Fenden Road. There was a beautiful symphony of natural sounds as the horses' hooves clomped on the stones, their iron shoes at times generating sparks and as the iron clad wheels ground over them. These sounds disappeared when a tractor replaced horses and pneumatic tyres replaced iron tyres. The other very pleasant memory I have of these experiences is leisurely sitting on top of the load as it was taken to the haystack yard and eating oats garnered from the hay.

By about the 1950s, the road had become known as Saints Road, named in recognition of my father's ownership of the adjacent land (my mother wanted it to be just Saint Road) and it became registered as such and at about the same time, rural Salisbury quite suddenly changed. Farming and horticultural lands were overcome by housing, shopping and industrial developments. Colin Harvey sold his land to a housing property developer, my father sub-divided his farm and land to the east of Main North Road right over to Golden Grove became residential so that traffic along Saints Road increased enormously for access to Salisbury and industries like Holden's at Elizabeth.

An interruption to the story of Saints Road permits an explanation of the names of roads created when my father sub-divided his farm. He named major roads after properties he had previously farmed. "Willochra" was an area about 20 Km north of Quorn where he lived in his youth and where he owned property after return from service in WW1 on a farm known as "Lolands." "Barndioota", west from Hawker, was the site of a 4,000 acre leasehold property briefly held by my father's father and where my father spent time as a youth. "Parawae" was the name he gave to his farm at Salisbury. Other names are of family. Harriett Court was named after my mother, Osborne Avenue uses the second name of my brother Ken and Wesley Court uses my second name. For some reason, nomenclature authorities would not accept Kenneth and Bryce as names for streets.

At the time my father was subdividing his farm, I was transferred back to Adelaide and looking for a home. My father transferred 5 vacant acres on the eastern corner of Willochra Road and Saints Road to my wife and me, and we proceeded to build a house, the first and only house on Saints Road, and develop the land with almond trees and fowl houses. The property was still remote from services so that we had to construct our own pipeline for water supply from a meter installed at the Main North Road, we had to wait some time for electricity to be supplied, there was no postal delivery and sewage was managed through a septic tank system.

The eleven years we spent on that small farm were exceedingly happy times for our family. All the improvements we put on the property have now been removed and huge warehouses have been built.

The one time I mentioned Saints Road being graded was after a rain and muddy water in a pot hole was sprayed throughout my car when windows had been left open as another car approached. Vigorous complaints to the Council had the road graded!

In about 1965, Salisbury Council declared land to the east of Willochra Road to be for industrial and commercial use. Another development on Saints Road was the building of an Orthodox Church on land which had been purchased by families of White Russian immigrants. Part of the Camp Paddock is now the site of a major shopping precinct called "Saints."

With the rapid and intense housing and commercial developments in the area now designated as Salisbury Plain and Salisbury Heights, Saints Road became a major traffic route. A two lane bituminised kerbed road was made, services were provided underground and traffic including bus services increased enormously. The road is of such significance that it is regularly patrolled with speed cameras! Gone are the water-filled pot holes and in are speed cameras. What would Kate and Jack, our two beautiful Clydesdale horses think?

To make the corner of Saints Road and Fenden Road safer, the magnificent gum tree has been removed – nature sacrifices for progress.

Memories are worth recording. The story of Saints Road illustrates the change from open farming Salisbury to residential, industrial and commercial Salisbury. There are few of us left who remember the change.

Bryce Saint OAM

October 2020.



**Aerial View
Saints Rd in the distance
late 1940's**

Salisbury Past Resident

Doctor William Hunter



Doctor William Allen Hunter came to Salisbury in April 1902 having just graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine from Sydney University; he served as medical practitioner and health officer to the district of Salisbury for 50 years.

From 1905-1932 he resided and had his consulting room and dispensary at the rear of the Governor MacDonnell Hotel. He was the only doctor in the district for many years. In the early years he used a horse drawn vehicle to visit patients and had to deal with poor roads and primitive lighting. There was no ambulance service and on occasions he had to bundle accident victims into his own vehicle and transport them to the Adelaide Hospital. He served for 13 years as medical officer of Yatala Labour prison, 50 years as honorary medical officer of the Rechabite and Oddfellows' Lodges and 13 years as secretary of the local rifle club. He played pennant bowls and had been president of the Salisbury club.

He served in an honorary medical capacity for 44 years the residents of Angas Home for the deaf at Parafield and until a chemist shop opened in Salisbury, he gave all of the medicine needed free of charge. He learnt sign language so that he could communicate with his patients.

In 1937 he married Miss Gertrude Swann and they resided in a house in Wiltshire Street opposite the Salisbury Hospital.

He delivered over 1,600 babies and the "Hunter" nursery, which was added to the Salisbury Hospital, was named in his honour in 1948.

In 1950 The District Council of Salisbury decided to honour Dr Hunter by naming the first street in the new area of Salisbury North "Hunter Crescent".

Dr Hunter died in 1952 at the age of 74 after suffering a stroke. He is long remembered for his medical skill and dedication to serving the people of Salisbury.



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 2021

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

Committee Members: Jim & Glenyss Trenorden, Jennifer Paine, Raelene Brown, and Alice Foster

Editing Team: Jennifer Paine, Lynette Potter, Alice Foster, Tanya Paine, Raelene and Des Brown

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Disclaimer:

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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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Facebook: - www.facebook.com/SDHS706

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