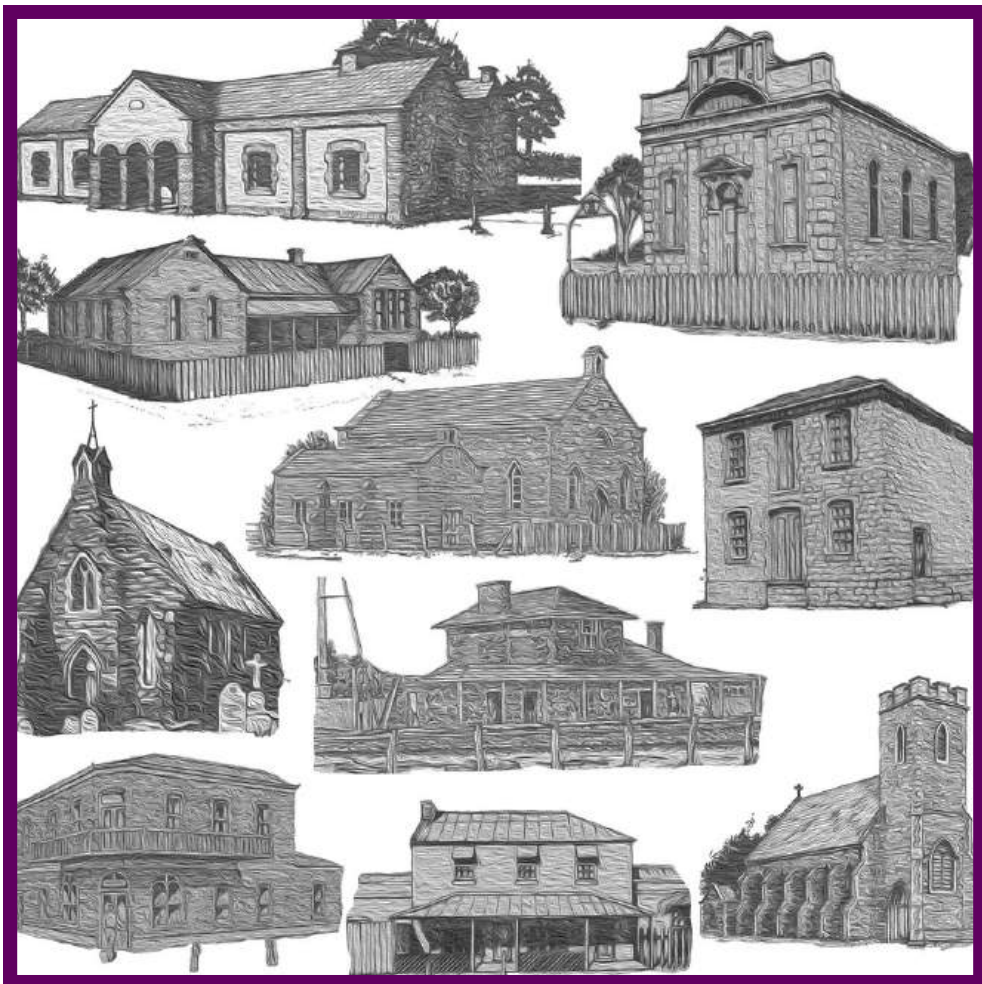


SALISBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER

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



APRIL 2025



Salisbury & District Historical Society Inc.
3 Ann St Salisbury

***We acknowledge the Kaurna people, the Traditional Owners of the land on
which we live today .***

We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging

SALISBURY AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPEAKERS AND EVENTS 2025

- APRIL Wed. 16th.7.00 Stewart Underwood
Holden's factory part 1. Adelaide to Woodville
- MAY Sun. 4th. and 18th. 1.30 2 Town Walks (see web page)
email salisburyhistory706@gmail.com to book the walks
Wed 14th. 7.00 Tony Bell. Penfield to DSTO.
- JUNE Wed. 4th. 10.30am. Don Loffler. Holden cars pt.2 + lunch
- JULY Wed. 9th. 7.00 Salisbury Collections Section.
Salisbury Heritage Survey 1991.
- AUGUST Wed. 13th. 12 noon Lunch at CDFC then visit to
Military Vehicle Museum at 1.30 till 4.00. \$20 INC. A/T
- SEPTEMBER Wed. 17th. 7.00 Stewart Underwood.
GM-H factory part 2. Woodville to Elizabeth.
- OCTOBER Wed. 15th. 7.00 A.G.M. , Show and Tell and quiz.
- DECEMBER Sat. 6th. 9.30 Christmas Parade. T.B.C.
Sun. 7th. 12.30 Christmas Lunch. Venue to be advised.
The Public are welcome to attend.
Take a photo to record for reference.
Find us at salisburyhistory.com.au with links to facebook etc.

President's Report

Dear Members,

What seems like a late start will soon see an increase in activity.

Our small committee is working well, and our museum attendants have begun their work to showcase our collection.

We have had to re-locate our photographic display into our main room, which with the improved lighting, has made for better viewing. We will continue to have our guest speaker events in this room, but hopefully this does not make the job too hard for Glenyss and Jim. We may need to give them some help.

You will see from our events programme that we have nominated for the 2 Town Walks in May.

At the first guest speaker evening on 16th. April you will see a request for assistance with catering on the 2 days. Please help where you can.

There may be some of our members who have not yet joined the Town Walk. If you do, I am sure you will learn a great deal more than you expected.

The committee is exploring the possibility of holding a small display in the mall in Hollywood Plaza shopping centre over 2 days. This event may help bring our Society to the notice of the community.

Please enjoy the activities and community that our Society offers.

Terry Sloan

President

SALSBURY THROUGH THE 1920'S

1920 WW1 had been over for little more than a year. The world, the country, was now at peace. But the grief was being felt in the hearts of families who had lost sons, husbands or brothers in the conflict. Salisbury was a country town with a population of 800. It had lost 16 of its young men-they were not coming home! The grief was not just confined to the families but was shared by the whole town. They were schoolmates, football mates, workmates and close friends. The whole population of the town sensed the loss and the sacrifice that had been made by these young men. This brought them somewhat together as a community.

The men that did return had changed. They had experienced the full horror of war, having seen their mate being killed beside them. They had travelled to different countries, meeting foreign people and living in vastly different environments. Certainly their outlook on life had undergone a change and their minds had been broadened.

It was an emotive mood in which Salisbury approached the 1920's. It was a feeling that the town should be made worthy of the sacrifice given by their young men.

Salisbury was still a parochial rural town where the stationmaster, W. Price, the postmaster, H. A. Byerly, the policeman, Giles the schoolmaster, W. Tribe and the town clerk, W.J. Sexton were well known to everybody. The storekeepers operated on a personal basis and everyone in the street would stop and chat.

The first project of the 1920's to honor the soldiers killed in the war was the "War Memorial". The initiative seemed to come from the parents of those killed.



Edwin Moss, Fred Frost, E.J. Paternoster, H.J. Coker and others. Gradually the returned men and the Council became involved. The first idea was to erect a memorial in front of the institute but it was resolved as impracticable. At this time there was no suitable road giving access to the Recreation Park, so it was decided to purchase a strip of land adjacent to and running parallel and east of the railway to provide access. The entrance to such a road from Park Terrace could be a suitable site for a memorial. A strip of land one chain wide was purchased from James Harvey who owned all of the vacant land from the railway to the extension of Commercial Road. 100 second-hand railway sleepers were purchased to fence the road. On September 2nd. 1921 a public meeting decided to erect a war memorial, a committee was formed and a year later the memorial was in place at the Park Terrace entrance to the new Road. Mr. C. Kiekebusch donated screenings from his quarry to surround it and the road was named Memorial Avenue.



In 1920 Judd's built a new shop in John Street, also a barber Shop was built in John Street.



1920 also saw the formation of a playground committee and this was to go through a very arduous journey over the next six years. It was a costly exercise and finally the Council took possession and it was later handed over to the Education Department to become the school playground.

According to the council records of 1920 they were buying starling and sparrow heads and eggs in an effort to reduce the pest population. The heads were worth 3d a dozen and the eggs worth 2d a dozen. The practice ceased in 1922.

In 1921 the Council purchased 11 acetylene street lamps from Gawler and erected them around the town. These were not lit in summer, but from full moon in April through to September they were lit half an hour after sunset till midnight. Ern Sawyer was the lamp lighter.

In 1923 a public meeting was held to discuss the Electric Supply for Salisbury. Later a poll was taken to decide on the acquisition of a supply. This resulted in 58 in favour and 1 against. Poles were erected on the Main North road and by December starting on the town centre. The old carbide lamps were removed and 12 electric lamps were suspended over the street intersections in the town. Agreement with the Gawler Electric Supply Co. was signed on May 1924.



1923 extreme flooding occurred in September. The flats were covered and water covered the verandah of Paralowie House. A drowning (the only one known to have happened) in the river. There was a visiting Sunday School picnic at the Salisbury oval and some of the adventurous lads wandered off to the river. One of them, William Benzie, fell in and disappeared down stream. His body was never found.

In 1924 St Augustine's church added a tower. It was not strong enough to safely house their church bell and that remained on a separate structure away from the building. W.H. Wittlesea erected a new butcher shop and residence in John Street and moved his business from Commercial Road. The National Bank erected a new building in John Street containing the banking chamber and the managers residence and moved their business from the corner of Gawler Street.

In 1925 the Station master was now Cyril Powning, the Postmaster A. Clifford, the Policeman T.H.Northbridge, the Schoolmaster R. Northey and the District Clerk W.J. Sexton.

Salisbury now had a Progress Association.

1925 Council Chamber built in John Street

1927 Parafield Aerodrome established

1928 Hospital opened on Park Terrace.

Taken from notes of James L. Potter OAM



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 2025

President : Terry Sloan
Minutes Secretary: Alice Foster
Treasurer: Chris Ferrell
Salisbury Council Rep: Shiralee Reardon
Committee Members: Delwyn Ayling and Alan Polkinghorne
Editing team: Jennifer Paine, Lynette Potter and Alice Foster
Website Manager: David Murren

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*