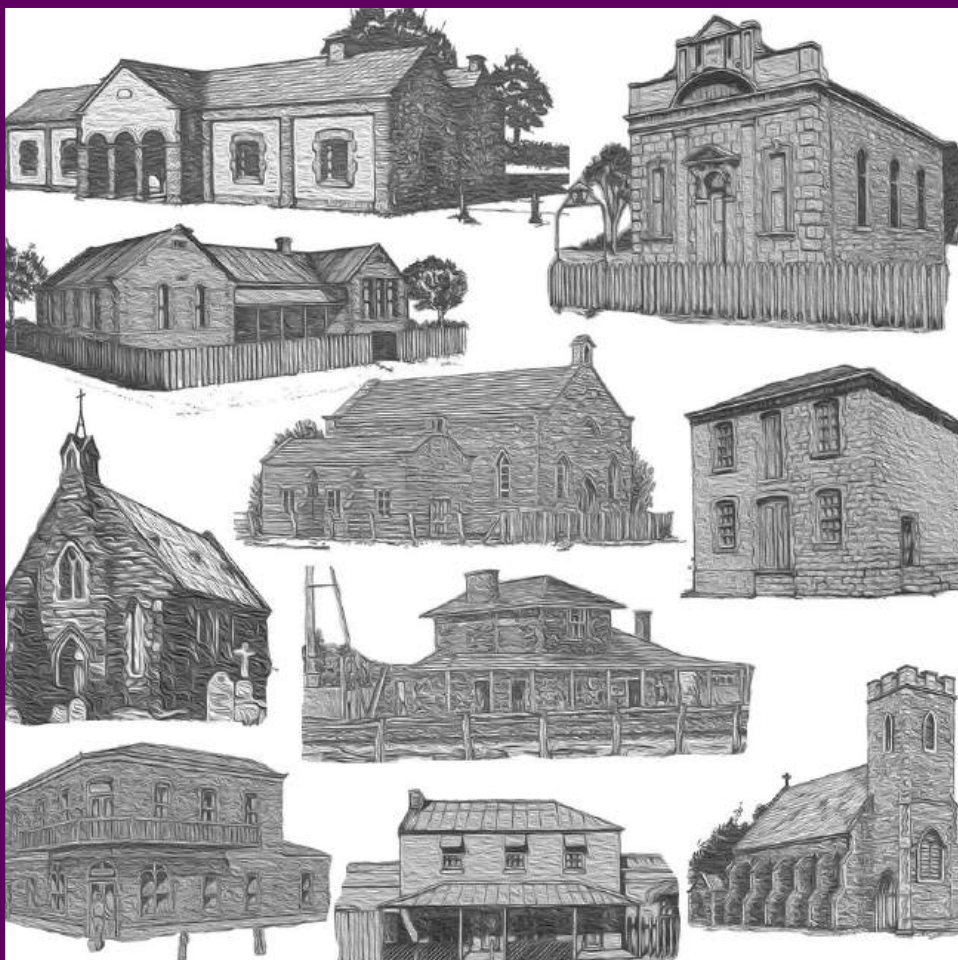


SALISBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER

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



AUGUST 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

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.

VALE Laurie Graeber.

It is with sadness that we record the death of Laurie Graeber on 28th June 2025. Our sincere sympathy goes to his family.

President's Report

Hello fellow members.

After about 7 months we have received a 39 page draft copy from TAFE of our new lease.

I have provided comments on behalf of our membership and expect it will soon be finalised.

The two walks we held during History Month were well attended, with 17 on the first walk and 23 on the second.

In preparation for next year I ask members who know of any potential Guest Speakers (with a history bent) to let me know.

Several members have asked if more daytime meetings could be programmed. I will put this on the agenda.

The committee is also looking for ideas on how we can improve our displays. One idea so far is to have a major presentation on a single subject for 4 months. Do you have an idea?

I still believe we need to be more in the public arena, and would like to hold a small display and information stand in Hollywood Plaza shopping centre. If there are between 6 and 12 people who could attend the stand in pairs for 2 hours between 10 am. and 4 pm. on a thursday or friday please let me know.

A reminder for those still thinking about attending lunch on 13th. August at C.D.F.C. (Goodman Rd.) followed by a visit to the National Military Vehicle Museum at 10 Sturton Rd. Edinburgh, please let me know if you have not already done so (for catering purposes.) Lunch at C.D.F.C. is about \$17.50 and admission to the museum is \$20 and comes with Afternoon Tea. To get there travel along West Ave. and turn into Sturton Road.

Terry Sloan 0427 277 302

The membership subscription has been increased to \$15.00 for singles and \$20.00 for a family.

CONNIE JAMES

Mildred Constance Grace James, the youngest daughter of Thomas George and Mary Elizabeth James was born at Salisbury on the 2nd of May 1905. After leaving school she studied elocution under Miss V. C. Tregoweth, L.T.C.L. of Whitmore Square Adelaide.



In June 1927 she gained her Associate Diploma in elocution from the London college of Music. She was awarded the silver medal of the college which was presented to the candidate who gained the highest number of points in the Associate Division of the college's examination. She was also complemented by her examiner on the high standard of her work. Then in December 1938 she gained her Licentiate Diploma (L.L.C.M.) in elocution.

She then began teaching elocution, setting up school at the family home "Bon Vue" and was well patronised by local children.

During the 1930's she applied her talents and those of her pupils in presenting concerts in the Institute. The Institute was straining to pay off debt incurred by building extensions in the late 1920's and her concerts raised enough money to help maintain a balance.

In 1925 she was appointed leader of the kindergarten department of the Methodist Sunday School, a position she held for the next 16 years.

Tragedy struck on 6th June 1935 when her fiancé, Frank Evans was killed in a motorcycle accident. This was a severe blow and put a strain on her activities.

As the 1930's drew to a close and Salisbury entered a wartime environment elocution had lost its appeal and other employment forced her to become bookkeeper for the local baker. On 25th April 1942 she married George Ford. After the war was over she and George moved to live at West Beach.

Connie died on 18th June 1994 at the age of 89, leaving a legacy of talent for the next generation.



Connie James and Frank Evans



Connie with Doris Saint, Isabelle Judd, Laurel Helps, Laurel Kester, Roma Jenkins, Shirley Anderson, Vesta Williams, Ailene Heidenreich, Margaret O'Leary, Betty Skinner, Gwen Helps, June Wittlesea.



Mr & Mrs George Ford



WILLIAM PHILLIPS WHITTLESEA

William Whittlesea also known as Will or Bill, was born 31st March 1893 in Salisbury South Australia. He was the eighth of ten children born to parents Arthur and Margaretta. Bills father was born in Salisbury in 1853 and was one of 14 children, 10 which survived to adulthood. Margaretta Hollis was also born in Salisbury in 1857. Arthur and Margaretta lived in Salisbury all of their lives. Arthur was a farmer on Para Plains until 1885 then began a butchering business on Commercial Road, originally owned by William Urlwin. The business was later taken over by his sons.



*Whittlesea Butcher shop, Commercial Road, Salisbury, C1920
Bert Whittlesea pictured in white coat.*

William lived at home with his parents, helping on the farm until he enlisted for the First World War on 14th February 1916 aged 22. He was assigned to Base Light Horse 2nd Depot Battalion AIF. Amazingly the next entry at the Australian War Memorial archives of enlistments on the same day is Hedley John Goodall, also from Salisbury, Williams lifelong friend. Both men returned to Australia at the conclusion of the war on 10th July 1919 on the ship, Oxfordshire. William was awarded the 1914/15 Star medal, British war medal, Victory medal & Military medal.



William Whittlesea

William as many returned service men, rarely spoke of his experiences. One story that he did tell his family was while he was a stretcher bearer on the battlefield for 3rd Field Ambulance Light Horse. It was normal practice to care for injured enemy soldiers as well as their own. William rescued a Turkish soldier taking him to the nearest treatment station, as he had probably done many times before. The man was that grateful for his kindness that he gave William the Turkish Star that he had been awarded. This is now a treasured family heirloom.



William as stretcher bearer with 3rd Light Horse Field Ambulance, 1917

William married Minna Rosalie Judd on 28th April 1928 and they lived in Salisbury. William continued to work in the family butcher shop, with his brother, Herbert. A new shop had been built in 1924 in John Street.



Whittlesea family home for William, Minna and Lyall, Salisbury 1938

William later worked as a stock buyer for Metro Meat Company. In 1938 William and Minna built a house in Commercial Road at the top end of John Street.

William also planted an orange orchard on the banks of the Little Para River. Salisbury oranges were very sought after at that time. They had one son Lyall, born in 1940.

Unfortunately Minna suffered from chronic asthma, so following medical advice they reluctantly sold and moved from Salisbury in 1944, finally settling in Goodwood Road, Millswood. Minna died in 1960 aged 62.

William attended the RSL and proudly walked on Anzac Day. He also visited other sick or injured fellow servicemen throughout the rest of his life. William died in 1980 aged 86.

Submitted by Jennifer Paine From the book: The Life and Times of William Whittlesea 1824 -1898. By Lyall & Bev Whittlesea



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

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

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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