

EAST TORRENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Newsletter

Issue 162 Volume 44 No 2
APRIL 2021

P O Box 169
Norton Summit S A 5136
www.eths.ws

Mount Barker

Carrier

ONKAPARINGA and GUMERACHA ADVERTISER
and THE RIVER MURRAY ADVOCATE

**Basket Range W.M. Hall,
C/- M. McDougall,
BASKET RANGE. 5138.**

MAY 1977

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Programme	3
Vale Jenice Chapman	4
Society updates	5
Memories of a Field Trip	6-7
A childhood in Basket Range remembered	8-10
Recollecting 20 years ago	12-13
Anzac Remembrance	14
Reprints from 2002	14-15
Membership form for 2021	16

OFFICE BEARERS 2020

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Secretary	Lesley Richards	8390 3390
Treasurer	Ray Blackwell	8165 3567

Committee

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EAST TORRENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

The committee is able to manage the Covid Safe Plan - Step 3. You will be required to comply with the guidelines.

Committee meetings are held 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 11.30am , All welcome to attend.

Deadline for Newsletter articles — 3rd week in January, March, May, July and September. Newsletter Committee:- Dr G Bishop, L Richards, J Kerwood.

Privacy Act

A member's personal information collected by the East Torrens Historical Society Inc., that is, name, address and contact details, will only be used for the forwarding of the Society's newsletter and other relevant information concerning the Society. The information will not be shared, sold or given to any third party without the member's written consent. Any emails received will be similarly treated, however, any information sent by email will be at the sender's risk and the Society will not be held responsible for any unintended use or disclosure of this information.

Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the East Torrens Historical Society Inc. While every effort to ensure accuracy of the material printed, responsibility is not accepted for any errors that articles may contain that are beyond our control.



2021

Investigating our history

April 14

6.30pm at the Summit Centre 4 Crescent Drive, Norton Summit. Light meal served.

Guest Speaker: **Jan Forrest OAM** South Australian Museum
Butterflies in your garden and notes on the history of
Butterfly Collections in SA

This meeting includes our AGM

Please let Lesley Richards know, for catering purposes, if you are coming to this meeting. Email :- rondar@adam.com.au or 83903390 or 0428105164

South Australia's History Festival May 1-30 2021

<https://historyfestival.sa.gov.au/>

June 9

TBA

August 11

11.30 am Morning meeting at the Summit Centre with a light lunch to start. Our guest will be **Jan Shepherd** speaking about and showing us her wire collection, 'Kitchenalia'.

October 13

11.30 am Morning meeting at the Summit Centre with a light lunch to start. Speaker - **Geoffrey Bishop**. Uraidla – unravelling the story of the township of Uraidla.

November 26

**Friday evening End of Year Celebration at the
Summertown Uniting Church**



VALE

Jenice Chapman

We join with our fellow members in offering our heartfelt sympathy to Garry, Giles and Ashlee on the passing of our beloved Jenice, on 23 March 2021

Jenice Chapman held the offices of: - **President** 1991- 1995
Treasurer 1988 – 1991 and again 1996 – 2003 **Committee member** 1988 – 2007 **Newsletter coordinator** 1999 – 2006 and a **Life Member** of the Society.

A few of our members were able to participate in the Memorial Service for Jenice, held at the Norton Summit Baptist Church on April 1st 2021. Jenice had a very full life, only part of it being with our Historical Society. Apart from her love of history, Jenice was an avid plant person. She ran a plant nursery at Norton Summit, had several superb and diverse gardens and worked at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens. Her projects for ETHS included recording cemetery burials (with Pam Green), a ‘brief’ history of Norton Summit and our first Heritage walk brochure of Uraidla. She also made a significant pictorial record of heritage sites in East Torrens. Thank you from ETHS - and, in time, our local community.

A link to the service is included here. vimeo.com/529318676

SOCIETY UPDATE

Your Committee has negotiated with the A H C customer service officers at the Summit Centre to have our collating and archiving days returned to Monday mornings starting at 11.15am and concluding at 2.15pm. If you are able to give a few hours to the Society we would welcome you with ‘elbow bumps’.

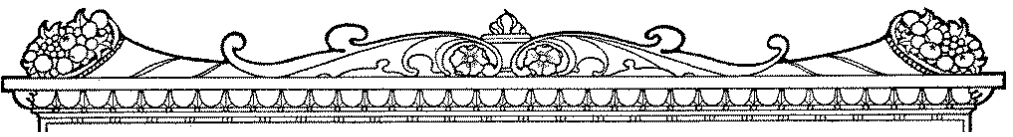
As part of our meeting on Wednesday evening 14th April our Annual General Meeting will be held.

Please think of the offices that will be declared vacant and of the people you may like to nominate to take those positions.

President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and eight Committee members.

Nominations need to be with the Secretary before the meeting and a nomination form will be included with this Newsletter.





Of Big Holes and Old Bones

While privileged members of ETHS travelled to Naracoorte earlier in the week, the main contingent made the journey through some rather pleasant countryside on October 18th. The irrigated and vineyard areas looked particularly healthy, but roadside growth suggested that the seasonal problems experienced elsewhere have been avoided in the South East.

By 7 pm the party enjoyed a good pub meal at the Kincairg before retiring to the Belvedere Motel in a very quiet area of the town. We were informed by our illustrious leaders and organizers to be at the caves an hour earlier in the morning. Our accommodating hosts rearranged the breakfast schedule for the earlier start.

Decima, our guide for the caves, conducted us on a most informative tour of Alexandra and Victoria Caves. The writer was particularly interested in the no-nonsense approach, the effective yet less invasive lighting and the absence of fairytale prattle. The caves are presented in a far more informative style, access is surprisingly easy. The tonnes of silt that filled areas now provide for the plantings above and huge caverns thus opened make for very comfortable travel. The fossil dig was most interesting. The large site has been presented in working mode, with no full scale removal of bones. Being left as revealed gives a very true indication of what has been discovered. The animals of old, fell to their deaths through small holes and their decomposing attracted scavengers who in their turn became trapped. At least they died with full bellies. The sinkholes did block up from time to time with trapped animals, which in turn would decay enough to fall through. This meant that scattered fragments would hit the cave floor. Any full skeletons were more likely to be the scavengers attracted to the meal below.

[A small side issue - 1. Morning tea and lunch punctuated our visit at the Bent Wing Café {Bent Wing as in bats in the area} - 2. The plantations in the area are magnificent and distract one from the purpose of the visit.]

The Wonambi interpretive center is outstanding. As a modern museum, with life like representation, it shows the world of the cave areas as it must have been during the life of diprotodon, tree eating kangaroos and marsupial lion. There were several old fossils who felt quite at home here. The Wet Cave was visited after lunch, but the writer moved early to Yulgilbar Wood Gallery to see beautifully crafted red gum furniture.

During the afternoon the party split on various journeys to the Naracoorte Show, Cemeteries, Tours of the town, and to three prominent churches which dominate the skyline. Of these the how didn't measure up, but the church visit was most worthwhile.

Seven members attended the Catholic Church next morning for a Day of Mourning for the Bali victims. Sunday morning we had tea at the Museum, and a bus tour to ,Hynam House and Naracoorte before lunch at the Mill Museum. Hynam House is being restored by the present owners, where we viewed the two huge front rooms. The house was originally built by the hardworking Smith family, and is in very good condition. A little salt damp or structural damage, but still a huge task by the owners who hope to use the house and harden for weddings and B&B.

Reprinted from **November 2002**



Our field trip touring group photograph from 2002

A CHILDHOOD AT BASKET RANGE REMEMBERED

Interview with Barbara Causby at Ashton, 16 September 2003

Barbara Causby's parents were Jim and Emily Hunter (née Hefford from Forest Range) of Basket Range. She spent her childhood on their fruit-growing property on Hunters Road. These recollections relate to that period of her life.

Barbara's father, Jim Hunter, at first lived on Cranwell's property, in the house that Jim and Effie later had. 'Father worked for Beauchamps and then Clark Filsell at Forest Range. He worked on his own property in the evening and at weekends. He was a very strong man. To go to Filsells he took the old Bullock Track through Bishop's property up to The Bluff and then the side track around to Lindstrom's small orchard and then over to Filsell's property on Deviation Road. He left before sunrise with a lantern to find his way; he started work at around 7 am and left for home at 5.30 pm. He would milk the cow when he got home. They built a house on the property in about 1924 – a very nice stone building. On Sundays the family would walk to church at Basket Range; we also walked to and from the school.

'He later worked for William Burdett and then for the carriers Gamblings of Norwood and Payneham. Drove horse-drawn carts for them; included carting wine in casks from Reynella to Adelaide.

'Uncle Fred Hunter's property adjoined and was known as the 'Waterfall Block'. Fred had a good, small garden and largely worked it full time. Fred moved to Kilburn in later years and also lived in Arthur Street, Magill. Uncle Allan's (Ally) property was the steep, now bald hill, to the west of our property. He grew flowers, strawberries and had some orchard. Our property was situated between those of the uncles, Fred and Ally.

'The original Hunter house was at the bottom of the hill near the creek [below Fred's house]. It was a timber slab house with the ceiling cover with hessian bags. I remember grand-mother Hunter going around with a candle to burn off threads that were hanging down.

'Further up the creek in Beauchamp's was the old Packer house. This was a slab and rammed earth construction. I recall Ron Beauchamp living there. Betty (Bette) Parker worked in the house for George and Dot Caldicott at Lenswood. She rode her bicycle there.

DISTRICT OF EAST TORRENS

Notice of Assessment

Under Act 244
This Notice is only given when the
Assessed Value of your property
is altered.

No. of Section 1256

To Mr. Jas Hunter (St John)

Sir,—I hereby give you notice that your property is assessed for the ensuing year for the amount appearing in the Schedule hereunder written, and if you intend to appeal against this assessment, notice must be delivered either by Post or otherwise to me by the 11 day of August 1948

Dated this 20 day of July 1948

Steele

District Clerk

No. of Assessment	Description of Property	Area	Situation	Fee Simple Value	Assessed value being 5 per cent on Fee Simple
<u>125</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>Basket Range</u>	<u>£140</u>	<u>£7</u>

The Council will sit to hear appeals (if any) at the Council Office, Norton's Summit, on

Monday August 16 1948 at 5 PM

East Torrens District Council assessment notice for Hunter property 1948

'We walked to school – either along the creek to the waterfall where there was a narrow path and a make-shift timber bridge, or when the creek was in flood, through Fred Hunter's top garden crossing at the top of the waterfall. In winter we would wear bran bags wrapped around our waists and on our heads like a pixie cap to keep us dry. We came up at Packer's Corner and took the small track down to the creek where there was a bridge to cross the creek, then up the hill, coming out just below the school. At times some of the planks on the bridge would be missing and it was scary to walk over the bridge. I walked home with Ralda Steinwedel and Coral Beauchamp, taking the long way home through Bill Bishop's Paddock to our house.

'Other contemporaries at school and locally included Clare Lewis, daughter of Tom and Dorothy (Doss) Lewis. Marie Zoanetti was a good friend of Bette Packer. Another Italian family, Canazarro, lived in the old Burdett house - immediately below where Andrew Burdett lives on Burdett's Road. It was in pretty poor condition even then. The school had a very nice garden on the slope below the school yard.

‘The Lane family had a property next to Wye’s at the top of Wye’s Road. I recall Silvy [John Silvanus] Lane’s sister Mrs Rossiter living there with her nephew Chubby Lane. Chubby was a short, round man. The Wye family bought his property in the 1950s. [Note: Silvy Lane was born at Third Creek in 1882; his father Richard owned the Pizey’s Rock property – later owned by Alexander Smith].’

Barbara left school in 1943 – her brother John was away at the War and she was needed at home to help in the garden. She would have liked to have done nursing. She loved history and arithmetic at school.

Geoffrey Bishop



Original Hunter house (left) and a second house brought from Port Adelaide area (photo c.1950)

RECOLLECTING 20 YEARS AGO

Reprinted from President's Report 2001 - 2002

The past 12 months have been a year of research, *as usual*, of juggling real work and unpaid work, *as usual*, of travel and, *as usual*, a period of enjoying the times we have spent together as the East Torrens Historical Society Inc.

Highlights of 2001 – 2002 are:-

The completion of the **Summertown Heritage Walks Booklet**. The Society thanks all who have taken part in this long, but most important project. The booklet is selling well, to the point where we have already had to re-stock some of our outlets.

The **11 Interpretive Signs** (one for each community in the Marble Hill Ward of the Adelaide Hills Council) have been completed and are ready to be placed by Council. This project has been under construction for approximately two years and culminated on December 21st 2001 when Senator Grant Chapman unveiled the first of the signs at Summertown, adjacent to the Café. Again, thanks to all concerned in the painstaking research and checking that is an integral part of this sort of labour.

Toilers of the Hills - Plans are being put in place to re-print, again, this book, as an increasing number of enquiries have been made regarding its availability. Financing this is a cause for concern. A set of **Postcards with Views of Norton Summit** have been printed and are available at the Post Office.

Other activities this year have been:-

A 3day Pichi-Richi Railway-Quorn visit.

A Day Walking Tour of Strathalbyn

Headstone and garden clean-up at Norton Summit Cemetery

A Winter Dinner Meeting at Summertown.

The Eastern Regional Seminar at Mitcham, which included presentations by various Societies, a magnificent luncheon and afternoon tours.

Our Annual end of year dinner.

The Society's presence and display at the Uraidla Show.

We have supported this year, via a raffle, the Mt Horrocks Historical Society and by donation the Strathalbyn and Quorn Societies. We noted, with sadness, the passing, in August 2001, of our member Brian Causby, a stalwart of the district and supporter of the society. Our sympathy was expressed to Barbara and the family.

The East Torrens Historical Society Inc. would not exist without three things

Those of you who attend our bi-monthly meetings. During this year we have averaged twenty-seven members per meeting.

Our speakers, who accept our invitations graciously, in particular, this year we thank Joan Driver, Roger Brockhoff, Gordon Trestrail, Don Willsmore, Barbara Davill and Bill Cramond, and Julie Reece, who will be speaking to us again this evening.

Our hard working Office Bearers and Committee members.

It is hoped that in this coming year we will again be active, pursuing our aims and objectives and, in the process, recruiting new members.

Jon Richards
President 13.03.2002

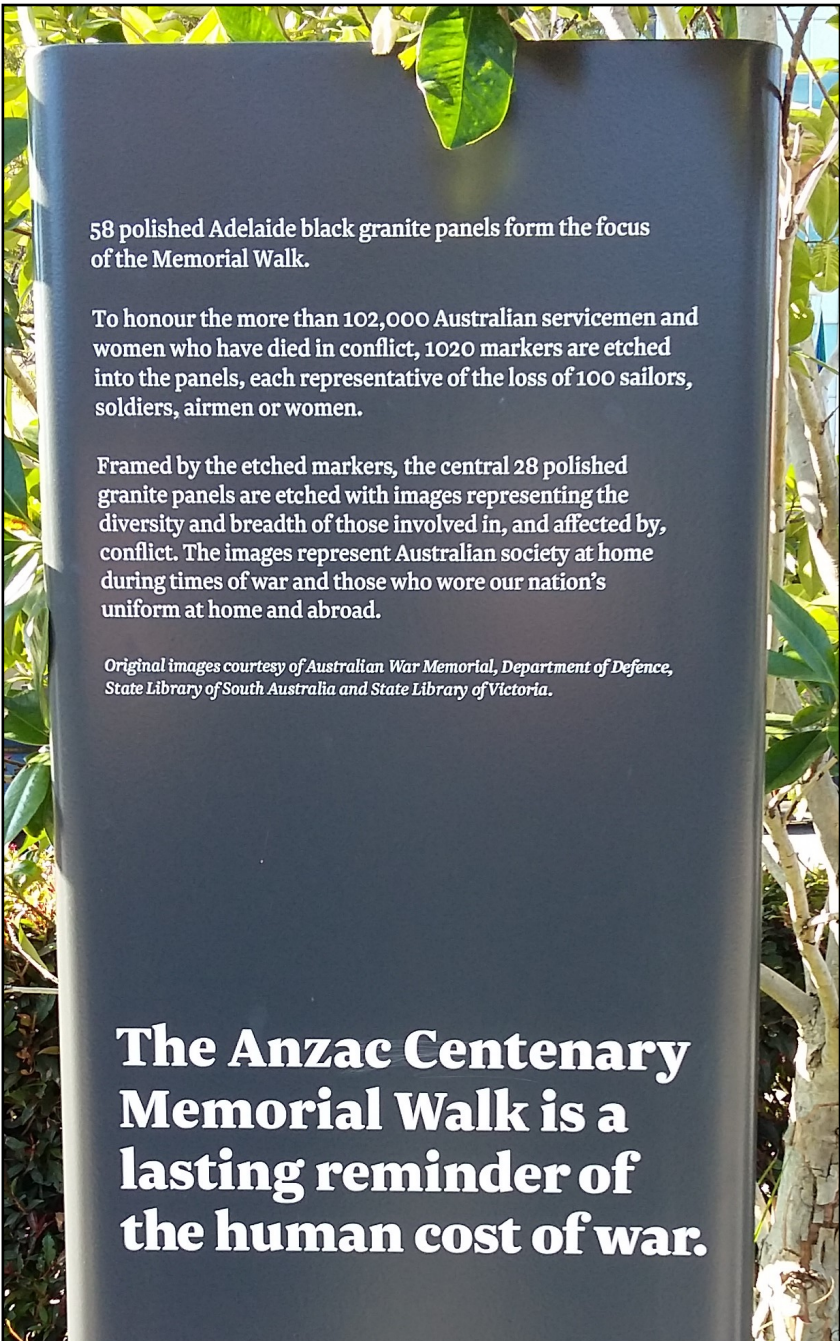


ANZAC Day 25th April 2021
We will remember them.



***The Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk now an important part of
 Kintore Avenue in Adelaide.***
Photographs RLR





58 polished Adelaide black granite panels form the focus of the Memorial Walk.

To honour the more than 102,000 Australian servicemen and women who have died in conflict, 1020 markers are etched into the panels, each representative of the loss of 100 sailors, soldiers, airmen or women.

Framed by the etched markers, the central 28 polished granite panels are etched with images representing the diversity and breadth of those involved in, and affected by, conflict. The images represent Australian society at home during times of war and those who wore our nation's uniform at home and abroad.

Original images courtesy of Australian War Memorial, Department of Defence, State Library of South Australia and State Library of Victoria.

**The Anzac Centenary
Memorial Walk is a
lasting reminder of
the human cost of war.**

From an article written by Spike Milligan in the 1980s.

A year ago, while performing in Adelaide during the Festival, I took a week off to go fossicking for colonial architectural relics. During the search, I came upon what must be some of Australia's earliest graffiti.

It was at the Church of St James, a few miles out of Adelaide, at what was the colonial settlement of Blakiston.

This is a typical colonial church of the period; the foundations stone was laid on October 3 1846, and the church was completed in 1847, and consecrated by Bishop William Short, the first bishop of the diocese. Built of local, honey-coloured sandstone, it has remained unaltered (a miracle?) to this day. Across the road is the shell of the village school, which has suffered from the 20th century disease, vandalism. However, the walls remain intact, and there is still hope (I have reported its condition to the Australian National Trust).

But it is to the graffiti that I return. Walking around the church, I noticed on the west wall a series of etched illustrations of tri-masted sailing ships, under which is etched *The Dash*. Subsequent investigation at the Records Office brought to light that this ship and another, "*The Dart*", were the two that brought out the early settlers to the colony, among them Captain Francis Davison, who settled at and named Blakiston in 1840.

Along with the ships, a score of names are engraved on the walls, some of them with professional skill.

*The article appeared in our Newsletter
Issue 72 Vol 21 No 4 in 2002*





St James' Anglican Church, Blakiston
Watercolour by S T Gill 1848

While researching for the book *Curiosities of South Australia*, Pam and Russell Smith, researched the two sailing ships mentioned but could find no record relating to them bringing settlers to South Australia.

Their book states, 'The ships may have some association with the pioneer families of the district, but that has been difficult to establish one way or the other. They could very well be nothing more than schoolboy etchings of a favourite subject.'

There was a brigantine named the *Dash* which in the 1830s was a coastal vessel. Perhaps she may have come to Australia at some stage, but no record of that can be found. Possibly there may have been some connection between a local family and the Liverpool *Dash* during the family's pre-Australian days and the carving was the result of reminiscing of home.'

There are several carvings on the church wall that are still apparent, four different sailing ships, quite a lot of initials and dates ranging from 1847 to 1897, before modern graffiti appeared nearby. One of the most outstanding is in the shape of a crown with the initials A.G.R. and the date 1897 carved within the crown. It is assumed this commemorates Queen Victoria's Jubilee and that the A.G.R. stands for A Glorious Reign.



**EAST TORRENS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
2021-2022
NOMINATION FORM**

Positions to be filled by election to office:-
**President, Vice-President, Secretary,
Treasurer, 9 Committee members**

Position to be filled:-.....

Person nominated for the position
.....

Signature:-

Nominated by

Signature:-.....

To print out this page for your nomination
and renewed membership forms, scroll
down to page 16, select Print from the
menu and click on Print Current Page. If
you have difficulty please ring Lesley on
83903390

2021 Membership Form

Circle appropriate details below

Type of Membership	Renewal	New
Type of payment	Cash	Cheque
EFT		
	Single	\$20
	Family	\$25

*Annual Membership fees are due
each January*

Please send payments to:-

The Treasurer

**East Torrens Historical Society
Inc.**

P O Box 169

Norton Summit S A 5136

OR Direct transfer payment to:-

BSB 633 000

Account No 167087535

**Account Name: East Torrens
Historical Society**

**Please include your NAME and
Mem-Fees as a reference**

First Name.....

Surname.....

Address.....

Suburb.....

Telephone No

Email

**If you are a new member - I heard of
the group from.....**

.....

Signature.....

Date.....