

YOUR GUIDING LIGHT

South Australian Tourist Guide Association

SATGA NEWSLETTER

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Greetings from your Editor,

After 31 nights, 275 venues and over 800 shows and 20,000 performances the Adelaide Fringe just concluded has once again proved very successful. It was noted to be the biggest event in the world and even making allowances for QR codes, social distancing and in some cases requiring to wear masks, the community supported the events and appreciated some free presentations like the Royal Croquet Club set up in Victoria Square. In this edition of my newsletter the reader will note a kind of nautical theme reflected in most of the articles including a report from Joc who is currently sailing towards Sydney. Should his contribution fail to arrive in time I will make sure you will be part of his adventures in the coming newsletter.

With the retirement of Mike Stevens from his position your committee has had to share responsibilities for the remainder of the year. We welcome Di Motteram who is happy to look after the minutes while Dita steps in as secretary. Both Joc and I will tackle the leadership duties. While the period of no major cruising will be extended to at least 2022 the only chance of connecting to any touring work rests with Hotel patronage from interstate or the Indian Pacific train stopping off in Adelaide.

Monika C has made contact with a representative of the Hotel management and after some delays hopes to pursue this matter further. Your committee is focusing on a familiarisation for May to the David Roche Gallery/Museum advertised in detail inside the newsletter. Christine C. has presented this suggestion and we hope to have good support from all members.

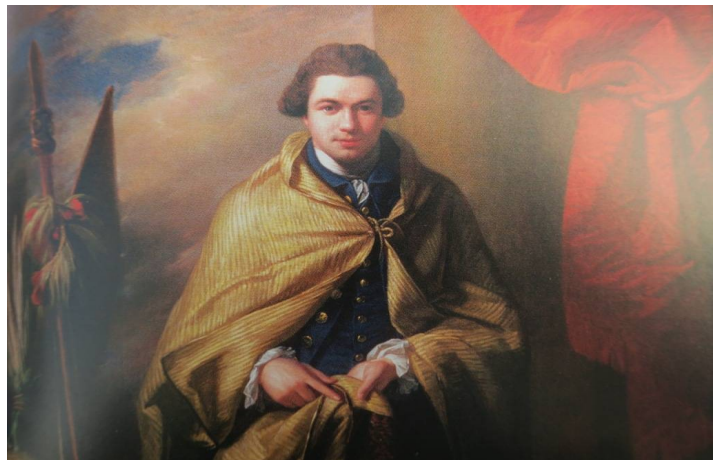
The latest news on any cruising apart from exploration and adventure offers which I will detail separately is not very encouraging

Finally on a rather sad note I wish to inform all members of the passing of Thelma Fitzpatrick after a long illness on 22nd March. She served the SATGA committee diligently as member and secretary. Our thoughts are with Tony for his loss of a lifelong partner.

Joseph Banks, a man of many talents

We all admire this botanist for his diligent work as a naturalist and immediately relate to the man every time nature displays the variety of colours and shapes on the shrub named after him, the Banksia.

He did not stop with economic botany however because to him other ventures of value needed to be explored. At the time of his travels the taste of tea appealed to the British aristocracy but China guarded their monopoly well. So he suggested to the East India Company for Chinese growers to migrate to Calcutta where some land was set aside in the botanic gardens. We all know what happened from those early plantings with Assam and Darjeeling now a well established industry in the tea business.



Portrait of Joseph Banks, 1785

A member of at least 12 societies he became the centre of communication for likeminded scientists in Sweden, France, Prussia and Holland. He organised and sometimes financed movements of food trees (bread-trees from Tahiti to the West Indies), also flax from Norfolk Island for sailcloth (not successful) . But when he worked behind the scene to round up Spanish merino sheep from small flocks in Saxony and France and sent them to the New South Wales colony pastoralists, colonists like Macarthur must have been forever grateful. He also backed the experiments with galvanising and laughing gas that Humphry Davy started in 1801. Banks was constantly sharing scientific knowledge with Carl Linneus a Swedish scientist from a country where we find much recognition for his work in museums today. Always on the lookout for more specimens to display in his Kew Gardens nursery, the artist Ferdinand Bauer returned in 1805 from New Holland with 3,400 plant species just to please Banks on top of his 1,800 drawings of plants and animals. PT

A First to remember

Sydney Parkinson, the artist on board Captain Cook's ship Resolution is recorded as the first European to sketch the animal never before seen in the known world. At last a small specimen was shot by the skilled marksman, Lieutenant Gore. The sight of this dead kangaroo originally (pronounced kangaru) had so long been the subject of speculation, now drawing breath of amazement. The most engaging description came from Parkinson himself, who noted it had 4 toes on its hind legs and 5 on its fore legs and that its head was like a fawn's but its lips and ears like a hare. He could not resist saying that while it was not really a greyhound, its tail tapered like that of a dog,



Artist: Sydney Parkinson

It was generations later that it was discovered that even today's spelling of kangaroo was not the local word for the species as a whole but only locally for a large black example. The words first pronounced by informants were misheard but should actually be *gaNurru* or *gangurru*. The name unknown in most of the 250 languages spoken in other parts of Australia, belongs to the language of the local Gogo Yimidhir people. They contributed no other word to the English language but kangaroo was a word that would circle the globe and appear in due course in many texts.

For general information most of the aboriginal words used in the present day Australia, come from a small area around Sydney where the Dharuk tongue was spoken. Add to it dingo, Waratah and poteroo.

P.T.

Hard to beat

A recent publication titled "State of Illumination" again pushed the liveability of Adelaide and surround, something not new to residents. However this time the focus was on the future with Lot Fourteen a centre to space, cyber and defence research. We are told that Adelaide is a city in transformation. From architecture to art, laneways to liveability, festivals to sport the examples are everywhere. Of late the façade of the re-shaped SkyCity building would have looked odd a few years ago, but now seems to fit the curvature of its neighbours. It's the unity that has breathed vibrancy back into this precinct to give an immense change to the landscape, but not losing its lovable charm. Old and new along the serene riverbank, a tourist favourite with Popeye and the historic Elder Park Rotunda, nestled alongside breathtaking buildings.

Even the cities nightlife offerings have undergone a radical renewal, especially with the introduction of licensing for small bars. Whilst the cities West end burst with state-of-the-art buildings dedicated to education, health and research. Walk off the main stretch of Hindley Street and watch glass blowers in action at the Jam Factory, view exhibitions of emerging and established artists just around the corner at ACE Open or watch bands and musicians perform at the Lion Arts Factory.

The real Pandora's Box

In Greek mythology, a woman of surpassing beauty to whom Zeus gave a box full of all kinds of evil could not prevent the contents escaping to ravage the earth. Hope alone remained behind.

Now we go to 1790 when Captain Bligh of the *Bounty* who survived an epic voyage until he and his mariners arrived by launch in Kupang, finally made it back to England. After reporting the mutiny led by Fletcher Christian the HMS *Pandora* was sent to Tahiti to collect any survivors from the original *Bounty* men. Fourteen were locked on deck in a cage the crew called the Pandora's Box. On their return the ship hit the Great Barrier Reef where four drowned along with thirty-one of the crew. Ten survivors from the *Bounty* eventually were brought back to face trial. Those managing to raise money and hire a lawyer were spared; the other three without professional help were hanged from the yardarm of HMS Brunswick in Plymouth.

A selected pleasure Cruise

The 120 guest Coral Adventure successfully completed a 10 night voyage from Outer Harbour in February this year with a considerable list of do's and don'ts. Normally pleasure cruises are all about socialising but this time only 40 passengers were permitted to fill the vessel in order to maintain "social distancing". Guests had to have GP assessment prior to the cruise which included a comprehensive health questionnaire and a Covid test done no more than 72 hours prior to sailing.

A group transfer had been arranged from the British Hotel in Port Adelaide and a further temperature check took place before boarding. The Captain said that the ship was a floating Covid free Zone and the aim of the exercise was to ensure integrity within this bubble. A passenger with a slight temperature after a few days of sailing was further isolated whilst tests were taking place. All was well and the destinations of the cruise were not interrupted. This included a number of remote islands normally only visited by fishermen with a reasonable size boat.

The ship stopped at Troubridge, Flinders and Wedge Islands and also at Coffin Bay, Tumby Bay, Cape Donington, Memory Cove and KI. The Queensland based Coral Expeditions line has so far run 12 cruises in the Great Barrier Reef and Tasmania since October 2020 after developing its own SailSAFE plan to combat the risks. It also had an SA Health-approved Covid Management Plan and guests had to follow strict rules to ensure safety.

There were no buffet meals nor were condiments left on tables and the itinerary included bush walks, snorkelling and spotting wildlife, from sea lions and dolphins to black footed rock wallabies and emus. The ship carried 2 tender boats on which guests would walk. Drinks were included with lunch and dinner and talks were given by lecturers.

Note; There was no mention in the article about rules once they were on land together with locals. P.T.

Events around Adelaide

April 14-18

Barossa Valley Vintage festival

May 14-16

Clare Valley Gourmet Weekend

April 30- May 9

Tasting Australia

May 1- May 30

History Festival

Program out in April

Main events concentrate on food and wine

A bit of fun

Did you know that in the old days in England most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still cleaned up pretty good in June. However they were starting to smell a little so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

We are planning a Familiarisation open to all members of SATGA

Captain Cook & the Art of Memorabilia

held; at the David Roche Museum in Melbourne Street, Nth Adelaide

Date: May 13 to meet at 11:00am

Cost is subsidised to \$10:00

and it is suggested to take a light lunch at the Old Lion after the event with most refreshment costs covered by your association We hope to