

# YOUR GUIDING LIGHT

## *South Australian Tourist Guide Association*

### SATGA NEWSLETTER

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#### NEWSLETTER No 88 August 2023

Greetings from your Editor,

We hear that this years "illuminate Adelaide" period has been a great success and visitors to the Zoo, Botanic Gardens or Victoria Square have been experiencing impressive displays.

Of late however many regions close to Adelaide seem to concentrate on "Food and Wine" offerings.

Staying with wine news I hear that the last vintage is down in yield, on top of winemakers reporting total failure with Cab-Sav crops due to excessive rain. This would apply mostly to the Coonawarra region where some vineyards have not been picked at all. I will be visiting the Clare Valley in a couple of weeks and check out the situation there.

Most of our members would by now have been notified by Cruise Ship operators checking on their availability to work with arriving vessels in Adelaide. Dates listed start in October and conclude In April 2024. I read some first time arrivals to Adelaide that I am not familiar with like the Island Princess, Brilliance of the Seas and Edge Celebrity. They vary in size from 90,000 to 130,000 tons with 2,000 plus passengers.

A worrying development is the cancelling of e-mail services by most providers starting soon with little alternatives but perhaps changing to G-Mail accounts. I have no further details so far but am interested to hear from you if you have ideas how we should communicate in the future. Page three of this newsletter is highlighting our next familiarisation event planned for September. Please respond if you would like to join the group. We are still requiring a guest speaker for our AGM scheduled for December 8 at our usual venue the Regal Motor Inn, North Adelaide. Suggestions welcome.

The second WEA training course proved to be very successful again with a number of coach drivers signing up, but I have been told also new prospective guides for future guiding work.

P.T.

#### Survival in a dry land

Waterless parts of South Australia from Eyre Peninsula to the Murray Mallee bring to us the reality that we live in the driest part of a dry continent . Some 23% of our annual rainfall is deposited in the tropical parts of the country and the eastern side of the Great Dividing Range has almost the same amount, Tasmania comes next with adequate rainfall in most years and the remaining parts of the country share the rest. For Adelaide we feel satisfied with 550-600 mm annually.

So how did Ngargad or Ngarkat people survive in semi-arid scrub country from Peake to Pinnaroo.

The anthropologist Dick Kimber, admitted he could find little hard evidence of their way of life. The country was devoid of any permanent surface water, relying mainly on soaks. The lack of water meant their living groups might have been small bands of about fifteen people with the whole tribe no larger than a hundred individuals, probably the smallest population of any mallee people. No stone existed for tools so they had to trade with tribes near them in return for wood and hunting access to their country. The Ngarkat did not survive invasion and settlement. One reason was a smallpox epidemic that raged along the Lower Murray and its hinterlands before Europeans reached the area suspected to have come from contact with Macassan fishermen on the north coast of Australia. Ngarkat National Park remains.



Flowering Gum

### Don't forget the Aerogard

Flies have been an annoying part of Australian life. It wasn't until recent years, with the success of the introduced dung beetle, that flies have been almost eliminated near major cities today.

The aerogard formulation was developed in 1963 at the CSIRO by one of Australia's leading entomologists, Dr Doug Waterhouse. At the time he was working in Canberra in ways to deal with the bush fly problem which in those days made outdoor life such an ordeal. He had already found a repellent for mosquitoes and sand flies during WW2, but it took another 15 years to find the right recipe. In 1962 during her visit to Australia, the Queen participated in an unofficial field trial for the aerogard prototype. The Queen's staff members were advised to spray it on the Royal personage for maximum protection. Worried perhaps that it would ruin her light coloured dress, they merely sprayed it in her general direction. The result, during a summer garden party at Government House in Canberra, finally saw the pre-sprayed Dr Waterhouse and the Governor General fly free, while in contrast the Queen was obliged to keep giving "the Aussie salute". Shortly after, the General Manager of Mortein heard about this great innovation and the result was the birth of Aerogard, Australia's most successful insect repellent.



P.T.

### Clapham- South Australia

*Clapham is almost a part of Mitcham. It was subdivided in 1883 but before that time it was virtually farmland. Early owners were R Wilkinson and J Young in 1839 and A Macgeorge and F Daws, probably of Daws Road fame in 1877.*

*One of the unusual experiments was the planting of an almond plantation and this idea spread down as far as Westbourne Park school and surrounds. A early eminent resident was Joseph Hippolyte Foureur who arrived in SA in 1874 aboard the sailing ship Sattara. He had wine experience having been born 16<sup>th</sup> July 1842 in Hauteville, France*

*Foureur commenced business in Clapham and was most successful with his wines particularly his champagne. Wine buffs spread the news of this and the praise even reached the champagne districts of France. As a result even in those days several law suits were taken out against him over the use of the word "champagne". Foureur's factory was built in about 1890 and by this time he was also making olive oil and cider. Some 25 years later Williams Beverages absorbed Foureur's and their new cellars were opened by the Lord Mayor of Mitcham. During the Jubilee 150 year celebration in 1986, Clapham Primary School performed a musical entitled "Quantum Leap". This fantasy concerned Hayley's comet and a present class of school children leaping back to 1916 type class room so they could discover the difference to present day learning. Clapham has a few old mansions of which one is Carmen Court, now a popular reception house. Originally it was the home of Christopher Moody who purchased the land in 1905 building a spacious home in 1918 named Dorset House after the County in England. Another interesting building is the Balyana Residential complex for many years run in conjunction with Bedford Industries.*

*Here accommodation and training was provided as part of a special program to help people attain major goals of an independent life that eventually could lead to them moving into their own home.*

P.T.

## BORDER'S LAND

Early whalers and sealers on KI referred to their haven free from firm rule, beyond any fear of law and order as Border's Land which may well be a corruption of Baudin, the French captain who named many of KI's landmarks.

I like to write about another captain better known to us when we visit port Adelaide. He was Captain John Hart who also visited KI frequently to trade in skins and salt. John Hart was a man of many parts, experienced whaler and sea-captain, long before this State was founded. He later became premier of South Australia three times. In 1854, in partnership with Henry Kent Hughes, he built a large flour mill at the Port. His home, Glanville Hall, is still used as a Boy Scouts venue today,

We have a Hart's Lagoon near Waikerie named after him from the days he would bring stock overland from NSW and he was the driver of the mail coach from Willunga to Port Elliot concluding this adventure with a mishap when the coach overturned on Bullock's Hill in 1864.

On this occasion one pioneer pastor, Ridgeway William Newland was thrown violently and died. Much later Hart was made a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George shortly before his death on 28<sup>th</sup> January 1873, thus bringing to a close a career which had been colourful and varied. He will live on through several name places in South-Australia which also includes Lake Hart in our North.

A person gallant and versatile, who seemed equally at home in politics, the business world, or sailing the high seas.

P.T.

## Events around Adelaide

### During August

Fleurieu Food Festival

At locations from McLaren Vale to Goolwa

And Strathalbyn

### August 1st to 17<sup>th</sup> September

Art Gallery, North Terrace

Frieda & Diego

Love & Revolution

### September 1-30

Hahndorf Handmade

Craft displays in the Main Street

### September 3<sup>rd</sup>

Grand Opening 1837 Estate (near Lyndoch)

### September 3-11

Royal Show

Wayville

### September 16- October 3

Grenache and Gourmet in

MacLaren Vale

## SATGA Famil.

### September 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Adelaide Town Hall

This visit to the Town Hall has been organised by Andrea Averis and is open to all members to attend. We have a guide for our group only.

If you wish to join us please contact Andrea on 0417 826 133 or e-mail [andrea.averis@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.averis@gmail.com)

**RSVP by Monday September 11**



Adelaide Town Hall