

# YOUR GUIDING LIGHT

## *South Australian Tourist Guide Association*

### SATGA NEWSLETTER

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#### NEWSLETTER No 90 January 2024

Greetings from your Editor,

I have much pleasure welcoming our new president Andrea Averis and her committee, endorsed at our well attended AGM in December last year. Andrea has been active in tourism studies and is also connected to organisers specialising in walking tours. She is certainly enjoying the challenge to accompany visitors in all directions around Adelaide during the cruise-ship arrival season.

We also have a new treasurer, Pauline Cecchin taking the responsibilities for finances from Monika C. who, like myself is retiring from a key position. Chris Smyth will be our Vice President and Jo Cole will assist with the secretarial duties together with Di Motteram. We especially welcome back to the committee Jo, in action once again for SATGA, a long time associate and now life member.

We should be confident that our new team with the help of very experienced members will lead this organisation to further success and all will benefit from their ideas, planning and activities. A further training course via WEA has been proposed for this year and a combined outing together with drivers and guides to be looked at for the future. The current cruise season has had a multitude of "hick-ups" mostly on the itinerary planning side, but also our coach company's lack of preparation of equipment and useability of conveniences. Joc and I will try our best to once more compile a list of shortcomings as reported to us and forward this information to the ever-changing staff at inbound operators headquarters.

I would like to help some of our less experienced guides with a couple of tips. Please remember that preparation is the key to a successful tour. Check the information supplied, refresh knowledge of the destination and info along the route. Co-ordinate times for stops at destinations like Cleland and Hahndorf and if there is an issue or reason for delay contact the designated company person at the Harbour. Communication is important.

P.T.

#### No shortage of Queens

The recent arrival of Cunard's Queen Elizabeth in Adelaide caused a last minute re-scheduling of their cruising around Australia due to heavy weather along the eastern coast of the country. Cunard's shuttle service is included for passengers but the desire to explore new destinations is always welcome by many. Their current captain is Captain Stephen Howarth who has joined after years with P&O World cruises which later became part of Carnival. Current planning for cruises down under include workshops by popular authors Fiona McIntosh and Alexander McCall Smith, all this is on top of signature Cunard touches like cricket star Brett Lee and exhibitions of art work.

The next Cunard visit will be Queen Mary late February to Adelaide and we all look forward to their newest addition to the fleet, Queen Anne, currently awaiting final touches in a ship yard in Italy.

Queen Anne will set sail for her maiden voyage to Lisbon in May 2024 – it will be the start of many journeys and the beginning of a new chapter in the 183 year story of Cunard. The ship will be vast – 322metres long, standing 64 metres above the water, and with the gross tonnage of 113,000, making her the second largest in the fleet.

With 13 decks, 1,498 staterooms and suites and 15 eateries to choose from, hopefully coming here.



Golden Princess in Adelaide 2017

P.T.

### Early Mail delivery

*With modern communication channels dominating our messaging format a letter or post card is now a special event once it arrives in the letter-box.*

*This was not always the case when we recognise one of the solaces of early colonial life, the receipt of letters from the 'Old Country' to the community consisting, for the most part, of people who continued to look on the United Kingdom as home, the arrival of mail was an exciting event. Prior to 1844, mails was received and despatched in an extremely irregular and casual manner as noted by the Adelaide Observer. Precautions might have to be taken with early despatches, to allow a few days in case of accidents due to wind and weather. A regular line of sailing ships was eventually established between Sydney and London, and for some years mail was forwarded by that route. The average transit time was 158 days (what's new. I am still waiting for a postcard mailed in New Zealand last October).*

*Postal matter between Adelaide and Sydney was sent by one of the Intercolonial traders, on board the Dorset, Emma and Phantom. Postal charges were high, the rate between SA and United Kingdom being 1 shilling per letter for many years.*

*It all improved when screw propeller steamers were introduced in 1852. These steamers travelled at a speed of 8 miles per hour, one of the first being the 'Australia' which arrived in Adelaide on 29<sup>th</sup> August, 1852 bringing mail from Plymouth in the UK.*

*Navigation into Adelaide was hampered by a 2 mile long limestone bar until it was finally decided to incur a heavy expense to dredge this. This enabled the larger ships to use the port and trade steadily improved in 1864. In a previous newsletter I have mentioned the P&O line using the Largs Bay Jetty as well. However, the first mail delivery under Postmaster Thomas Gilbert ( Gilbert Street is named after him) landed on the shores of Holdfast Bay.*

*P.T.*

### Kensington/Norwood

*I have chosen one of our earliest suburbs close to the City of Adelaide and several well known places we can still recognise today.*

Lieutenant Y.B. Hutchinson, followed a creek from the river Torrens through dense, undulating forest country to a waterfall in the foothills, traversing the future sections of Kent Town, Norwood, Kensington and Marryatville. The first of the Overlanders, Joseph Hawden and Charles Bonney, arrived in Adelaide in March 1838 with 300 cattle and horses. Charles Bonney later became a partner of Edward John Eyre and pioneered a livestock route along the Coorong. He was also an early resident of Norwood and when a municipal government was granted in 1853, he was elected as the first Mayor of Kensington/Norwood. In May 1838, Samuel Reeves laid out allotments in the lightly timbered, North Western corner of his section, near the present Maid and Magpie Hotel. The first church east of Adelaide was built on a narrow private road running through Reeves allotment. The street was eventually widened and retains its original name Chapel Street. In 1838, 144 one acre blocks in the Kensington section were advertised for sale for £12 each, including survey and deeds. At that time Kensington had few residents before a Dr. Scott opened the Globe Inn in 1840 near a track formed by local teamsters. Inspector Tolmer was an early Norwood resident. He led the police troopers into the Tiers, as the Stringybark slopes west of Mt Lofty and Crafers were known, to restore peace and protection for outlying settlers.

The first main street was Bridge Street, named for a small footbridge built by public subscription over Hallett's rivulet, now Second Creek. The village eventually grew around High Street where Aldridges's Bakery, Hugh's Butcher Shop, Heanes's Bootshop and the Rising Sun Inn were located.

In the 1840's Aborigines still held corroborees at the bend downstream, on Second Creek.

The Norwood Town Hall Tower was built in 1884 at a cost of £300, and had provision made for a clock, but the council had no funds for this purpose at the time. It was not until 1889 that a clock was made to order by Gillet and Co in England and presented to the town.

**Australia Day**

I am touching this topic mainly from a historical point of view with an open question: should we celebrate the first record of a visible knowledge of part of the continent, or the first organised landing of emigrants.

Records point to the Spaniard, De Quiroz being the first white visitor to the Great South Land in 1609. On board a Portuguese with the name of Torres and we know where to find his name. Next is Dirk Hartog who in 1616 left a pewter dish on the shores of WA as a reminder he spotted land. Not far behind him is another Dutch explorer, Abel Tasman in 1644. We now honour his name for Tasmania ( originally Van Diemens Land). Captain Cook spotted the East Coast in 1777 and when Captain Phillip arrived with the first fleet of 11 ships he actually came to Botany Bay first before using the more suitable Sydney Cove on January 26, 1788.

The name *Australia Day* was not given until 1938 and the first parade was held in 1964. The first ‘slap-up day’ coincided with the bi-centenary event in 1988 and it was not until the 90’s that a burst of patriotism and citizen ceremonies took place. Before that it was just another long weekend giving the opportunity for a barbeque and for workers to receive a paid holiday.

Other English speaking countries like the US have chosen the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, their day of the declaration of independence from England and Canada has a National Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July when the Dominion of Canada was formed. The UK presently have no National Day to celebrate but it has been suggested to use the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, their current Bank Holiday. P.T.

**Events around Adelaide**

February 15-March 17

Adelaide Fringe including  
The Garden of Unearthly Delights

February 9

Laneway Festival  
Bonython Park

March 1-17

Adelaide Festival

March 8-11

WOMAdelaide

March 19-28

Clare Valley Gourmet Week

April 4-7

AFL Gather round

May 3-12

Tasting Australia  
150 events in 12 regions.

**Are there any hero’s left**

With the desecrating action to Captain James Cook’s statue in Melbourne we are once more struggling to understand why this is happening. Is it straight out vandalism or much deeper our education system not explaining events in terms of historical facts and reality. I hope one of my hero’s Mathew Flinders is not touched by out of control stupidity.

