



A.N.D.F.H.G. Inc. News Sheet

Issue 77 – May 2016

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VICE PRESIDENT	Ivan Randall
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	Helen Stein
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From the Committee

Hello Members,

We are well and truly coming closer to the end of our financial year which means renewals of your membership, which will expire at the end of June this year. You can pop in between 10 o'clock and 4.00 pm on any Thursday to pay your subscription. If you are still searching for that elusive Ancestor, we urge you to carry on with your searches and renew through the Group. As most of you know we have had to increase the fee to \$25.00 (\$12.50 Associates) due to internet and other costs. Also, our Annual General Meeting will be held on the **23rd July** this year, which will be quite significant in that we will be celebrating our 10th birthday. A milestone in any family history group! More about the AGM in our next newsletter.

We have made a couple of changes recently on our website which has now been given an Australian domain. We are now www.andfhg.org.au as well as a new look for our webpage so please bookmark this for future reference.

We had a very entertaining afternoon at the April meeting with Pamela Rajkowski's talk about the Afghan Cameleers and Herbalists, who predominantly lived around their mosque in Little Gilbert Street Adelaide (very close to West Terrace). Some of these men went on to marry Irish girls, but the women and children were kept in the background so not a lot is known about the history of these families. ANDFHG has bought one of Pamela's books "*Beltana and Beyond*" for our library which is available to borrow. Pamela's website is www.pamelarajkowski.com which will give you lots more information including the historic walks that Pamela conducts and will inform you more about the herbalists and their background.

In this month's newsletter we give you the first part of John Clift's talk which he presented late last year on the REID family of Gawler. For those members who did not attend that meeting, you will be interested to read the information that John uncovered especially through Eliza Reid's memoirs.

Also, if you turn to the last page of your newsletter, you will see we have a very interesting speaker - Dorothy Heinrich's presentation of '*The Man Who Hunted Whales: A tale of Kangaroo Island and a doomed ship*' - so please come along and find out about Captain Morgan. Sounds exciting, doesn't it?

Disclaimer

The Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group Inc. does not accept any responsibility for the opinions or the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>2nd May</p> 			<p>5th May</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		
				<p>12th May</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>14th May</p> <p>Research and Committee meeting 1 pm – 4 pm</p> <p>Committee Meeting 1 pm</p>
				<p>19th May</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>21st May</p> 
				<p>26th May</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>28th May</p> <p>Guest Speaker Afternoon 1 pm – 4 pm</p>
				<p>2nd Jun</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		

"The Reid Family."

Part One



'Dead Man's Pass' Gawler. Sketch by Col Wm. Light. 1837.

"Gawler's First Pioneer Settlers."

Compiled by John Clift.

Introduction.

Gawler Town.

Gawler Town's official foundation is recognised as being the 1st July, 1839, consequently we are celebrating our 175th anniversary this year.

However to appreciate the glimmerings of the dawn of South Australia's first Country Town we need to go back to December, 1836. On the 27th December of that year, Col. William Light, the Surveyor General for South Australia had surveyed the Adelaide area and chooses the site for the city. On the 27th December, 1836 Gov. John Hindmarsh proclaims the Colony of South Australia and the first immigrants arrived in the Adelaide area under the Wakefield scheme.



In 1837 Col. Wm. Light and party were commissioned to explore the Para Valley to find a pass to the Murray River, a pass which we now know as 'Light's Pass'. "The early overlanders, such as Capt. Sturt, droving stock from New South Wales to succour the struggling settlement at Adelaide were obliged, so as to bypass the formidable ranges on either side of Mount Lofty, to cross the Murray near Murray Bridge or at Tailem Bend. Thence they moved their herds to Noarlunga and along the coast to Adelaide. Light hoped to find a shorter passage through the hills, with good grazing so that the weary animals could be spelled and fattened up before market. As well of course, he was looking for "extensive sheepwalks" and more land suitable for settlement". (Derek Whitlock. 'Col. Light's Country Town'. P 26.)

Col. Light named Barossa and the valley which he named after his friend Lord Lyndoch.

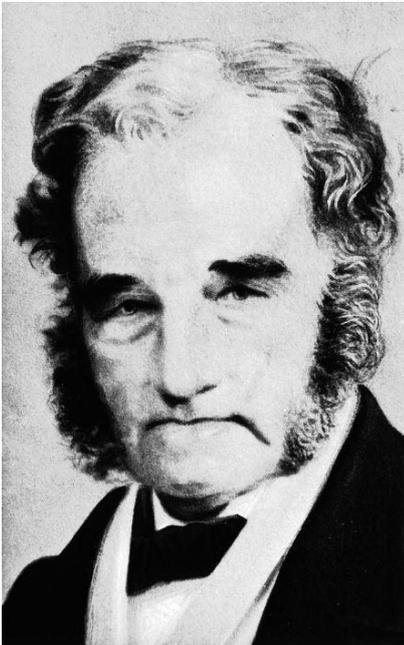
The River Murray was nature's highway to and from the Eastern States and it seems incredible these days that the Mt. Lofty Ranges presented a problem for the drovers of the day before they could transverse the undulating country in that area.

Light was commissioned to find an alternative route and he selected the pass at the northern tip of the Barossa valley – saving a lot of time in unnecessary droving mileage.

Light and party in previous expeditions had camped on the banks of the area we now know now as the South Para River and in the area they called the Para Pass and we believe this to be the area that we know as Dead Man's Pass – but that is another story!

Light foresaw the area at the junction of the North and South Para rivers as a key point for future journeys to the North and the River Murray being about a day's travel by horse from Adelaide.





On 17th October, 1838 Col George Gawler was appointed as Gov. of South Australia and was appointed as Resident Commissioner. He was pressing for the area in the confluence of the North and South Para to be developed, however as all of the land had been taken up as real estate investment by purchasers from England and in many instances – sight unseen! This created a situation where there was no provision for a Township.

Special Survey and Gawler Town.

Special Surveys were provided by the Board of Commissioner In 1835 at the behest of George Fife Angus. These surveys allowed by the advance payment of 4000 pounds, selection of an area of 15,000 acres outside defined districts. After this area had been divided into 80 acre sections, the purchaser could choose 4000 acres within that area with the remaining 11,000 acres being available to other settlers for the set price of 20 shillings per acre. (PIKE Douglas 1957. Pg. 178).

In 1839 Col. Light planned the Town of Gawler. Wm. Jacob records that Light gave me the plans and I pegged it out. Jacob St. was named in his honour.

John Reid had arranged for settlement of land in Mc Laren Vale region but as surveying was behind schedule, Col. Light had just completed the Gawler Special Survey and induced him to look at the area.





Late John Reid.

In February, 1839 Henry Dundas Murray and John Reid and Stephen King completed the three days journey to view their selections. On returning Henry Murray and John Reid applied for and were granted The Gawler Special Survey on behalf of a syndicate of 12.

Fourteen of the original proprietors surrendered some 4000 acres. And George Loyau in 1880 explains that - Early in 1839 they caused this portion to be laid out in allotments and on 1st July 1839, these were divided amongst the 12 proprietors, and a township destined to play no mean part in the progress of the colony, sprang into existence.

Col. Light's health was declining and he had resigned as Surveyor General and his staff resigned with him, however Light had finished the planning of Gawler Town which was draughted by Mr. Thomas dated 1st July, 1839 and pegged out by Jacob and Nixon.

John Reid and his family did not wait for the plans, but left Adelaide to take up their 630 acres, comprising 33 allotments, on the banks of the North Para on the 16th February, 1839 naming their property 'Clonlea'.

The remaining 100 acres for the formation of a township was divided into 200 allotments.

The town was named in honour of Gov. Geo. Gawler and "Light was obviously disappointed that the town was not named in his honour, stating that all they can name after him was a salt creek". So records Wm. Jacob.

Col. Wm. Light died on the 6th October, 1839.

John Reid's Lot allocations including the land purchased for the Old Spot Hotel.

Allotments Shown in white.

**1, 6, 15, 16, 32, 33, 36, 39, 40, 42, 48,
59, 61, 82, 90, 98, 100, 113, 115, 131, 115, 131, 132,
138, 146, 150, 160, 161, 178, 179, 187, 188, 206.
Schneibener . 140, 199, 208.**

(Payment by John Reid for 'Old Spot Hotel.')

This shows the allocation of sections issued to the original twelve proprietors, John Reid's sections shown as white.



As stated previously - Col. Light had quarrelled with the Government and had resigned as the Surveyor General and his staff resigned with him and set up a private company.

Col. Light was a man of great foresight and he wanted the town proper to be laid out on the higher ground which is now known as Church Hill. He predicted that if the town was situated along the track followed by the bullock drivers, which is now Murray Street that this could be subject to flooding.

It is reported that in the area where the property which was until recently occupied by Simply Pine (H. B. Crosby – premises) there was a considerable gully extending from the hillside which is now part of Gawler East to the South Para River.

This gully was filled to give an even contour and a very large, bricked up underground drains were constructed either side of Murray St. to handle this water and drain it to the River. Light lost He might have lost the battle to locate the town on higher ground but posterity has shown many times in the saga of Gawler the predictions of flooding as made by Col. Light were true.

Eliza Reid's Memoirs. Most of the details are quoted from Eliza Reid's memoirs written in 1898. They were published as Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of Australia. South Australian Branch. Session of 1926 – 27.

Eliza Sarah Reid, John Reid's eldest daughter was prompted to write her memoirs some 60 years after their migration, because she states that on advice from American friends that, "So many Americans to whom I have spoken of our emigration to Australia have said 'Why not write it all down for the benefit of those of your family who may come after you? What would we not give to know how and when our forefathers came to America?'" So back in England at Stanwell House, Stanwell, Staines on the 23rd January 1898. She wrote, "So now I hope to make my little history interesting."

They become known as 'Mrs. Mahony's Notes' and give us a valuable insight into pioneer settlement as written by Miss Eliza Sarah Mahony (nee Reid) in 1898, the eldest daughter of John Reid – our first pioneer settler and family.

"The year of 1837 was a year of great depression in Ireland, and my father, John Reid, a merchant and ship owner in County Down, met with great losses, so that, by the advice of his brother James (who fifteen years before had gone to Sydney, New South Wales, with his regiment), he decided upon going to Australia."

Eliza states that "For months I never heard mention of Australia without tears; indeed, it was the first trouble of my life."

"After much planning and considering by my father and mother they went to Liverpool to inspect ships and engage our passages." The "Orleana" was under the charge of Captain Cameron. The ships tonnage was 648 tons and carried 84 passengers. Their passages were taken to Adelaide leaving early September 1838.

Eliza writes that her father selected South Australia which had only just been settled. (28th December 1836.)

It was the only one at that time which excluded convicts. But with the introduction of sheep and cattle overland from New South Wales, and by sea from Tasmania there came ticket-of-leave and time expired men. Eliza speaks highly and records of these convicts "whom we employed, and who understood building huts much better than the emigrants, and we never had more honest, more industrious servants. "Remember that then the people were transported for stealing a fowl or any small thing; they were not the hardened criminals of the present day."

The Reid Family.

Eliza, the eldest of the Reid family, was born on the 16th August, 1824, so was 14yrs of age when they migrated. Others were brothers Sam, 12 years, William Livingston, 10 years, John, 8 years, Ross, 6 years, and Richard Jebb Brown, 4 years. As mentioned earlier Eliza stated that "For months I never heard mention of Australia without tears; indeed, it was the first trouble of my life."

To be continued

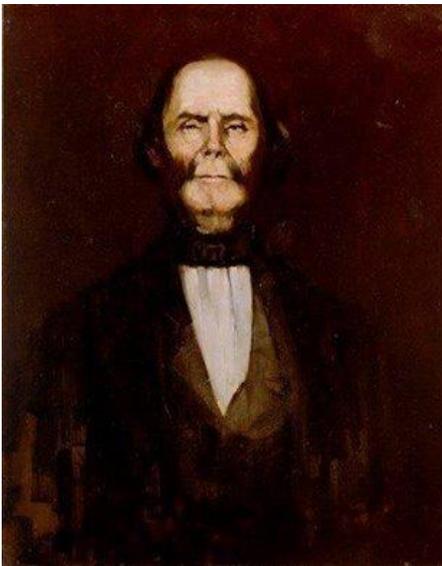
BUCKLEY'S CHANCE !!

(copied from Pioneers Victoria)

We have at some stage in our lives used or heard the expression "You've got Buckley's Chance" in doing anything that might be too hard or difficult to overcome. This is probably because of this man !

BUCKLEY, William (1780–1856)

William Buckley, 'wild white man', born circa 1780 at Marton, near Macclesfield, Cheshire, England, who was the son of a farmer. He was reared by his maternal grandfather, who sent him to school and apprenticed him to a bricklayer. He joined the Cheshire Militia, and later the 4th Regiment. Because of his great height, 6 ft 6 ins (198 cm), he became a pivotal man of his company. In 1799 he served in the Netherlands and was wounded in action. After his return to England, he was convicted at the Sussex Assizes on 2 August 1802 of having received a roll of cloth knowing it to have been stolen, and was sentenced to transportation for life. He was taken to Port Phillip (Victoria) in April 1803 in the *CALCUTTA* with a party under Lieutenant-Governor David Collins, and there he and two companions absconded from the camp. Fearful, weary and hungry, they sent signals of distress to the *Calcutta* from the other side of Port Phillip Bay but these were not noticed. Buckley's friends turned back and were not heard of again. He fed on shellfish and berries, and was befriended by Aboriginals of the Watourong tribe, who believed the big white stranger to be a reincarnation of their dead tribal chief. He learnt their language and their customs, and was given a wife, by whom, he said, he had a daughter. For thirty-two years he lived mostly in a hut that he built near the mouth of Bream Creek on the coast of southern Victoria. Legends have grown up around his name, but a careful investigation of John Morgan, *The Life and Adventures of William Buckley* (Hobart, 1852), suggests that his account is close to fact. Buckley said there were occasional white visitors to Port Phillip during these years, but



he was afraid to give himself up until July 1835, when he overheard the Aboriginals plotting to rob a visiting ship and murder the white intruders. He surrendered to the party under John Wedge at Indented Head. At first he had forgotten his own language, but he was identified by the tattoo mark on his arm, and the initials 'W.B.'

Wedge, who thought he would be a valuable intermediary, obtained his pardon from Lieutenant-Governor (Sir) George Arthur. John Batman employed him as interpreter at a salary of £50, and he later became government interpreter. But he was confused in his loyalties, and felt that neither the Aboriginals nor the whites trusted him entirely. Unhappy and disillusioned, he left for Hobart in December 1837. He became assistant store-keeper at the Immigrants' Home, and from 1841 to 1850 was gate-keeper at the Female Factory. He retired on a pension of £12 to which the Victorian government added £40 a year. On 27 January 1840 he had married Julia Eagers (also known as Higgins), the widow of an emigrant, at St John's Church of England, New Town. She had two daughters.

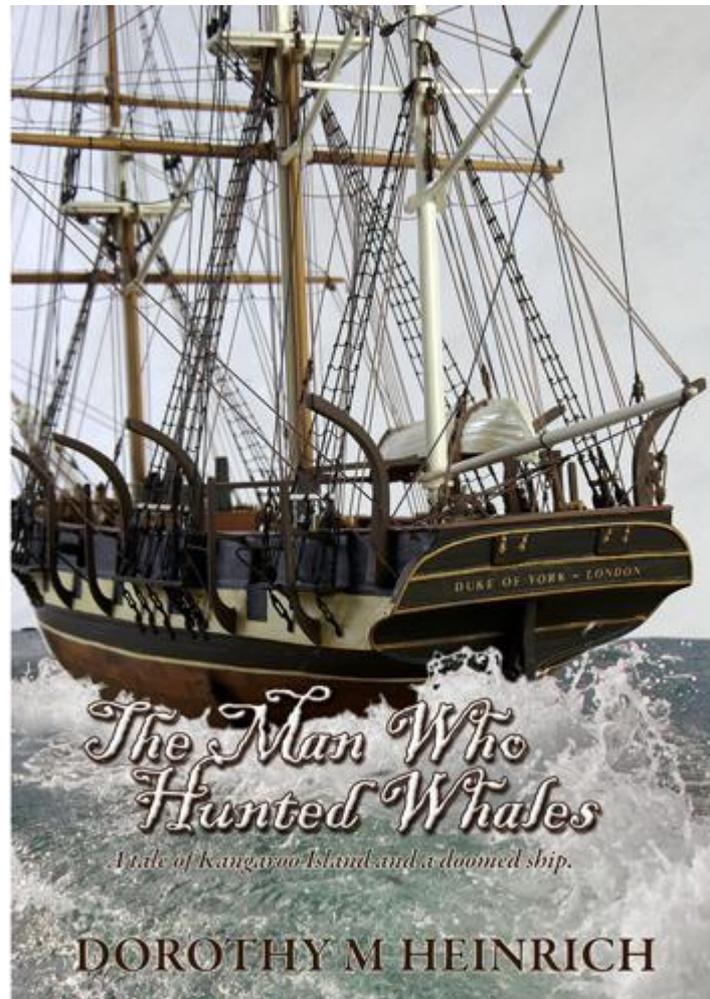
Buckley died at Hobart on 30 January 1856. He has generally been represented as a person of low intelligence, but his easy assimilation into an unfamiliar way of life may also suggest that he was intelligent, shrewd and courageous. Some authentic portraits exist, including sketches by Wedge, in the State Library of Victoria, and a portrait by Ludwig Becker, later copied by Nicholas Chevalier, which is owned by J. E. Pyke, of Hawthorn, Victoria.

This article was published in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 1, (MUP), 1966 - by Marjorie J. Tipping.

1.30 pm Saturday 28th May.

Dorothy Heinrich

'The Man Who Hunted Whales: A tale of Kangaroo Island and a doomed ship'



In 1836, Captain Robert Clark Morgan landed the first official settlers on Kangaroo Island from the whaling ship Duke of York, then sailed to the whaling grounds of the Pacific. He faced crew rebellion, convict attack, and shipwreck. In the ensuing ordeal, not all on board returned to safety.



Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group Inc.

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