

The Friends of South Australia's Archives Inc Newsletter

#80

June 2022



Vale Jack Cross (1930–2022)

Long-time President of the Friends of South Australia's Archives, Jack Cross, passed away on 20 January 2022. Jack was the third and longest serving President of the Friends, proceeded in the role by Eric Richards, History Professor at Flinders University, and Gerald Fischer, former State Archivist of South Australia. Jack Cross, who was elected President of the Friends in 1999, attended his last committee meeting in June 2021, and maintained an impressive intellectual vitality to the end of his life.

Jack had been involved in the Friends of South Australia's Archives since its foundation, as one of the forty-three people who attended the initial meeting held in the Institute Building on North Terrace on Wednesday, 28 February 1996. As a dedicated user of archives, Jack was passionate about the role of the Friends, and its objectives to encourage the preservation of historical records, to assist archivists, and to represent the concerns of the users of archives.

As a historian, Jack Cross followed in the footsteps of his mentor Professor Douglas Pike, who supervised Jack's Honours and Doctoral theses. In an interview undertaken in April 2021, Jack discussed the guidance provided by Douglas Pike when it came to the use of archives. Pike had recommended a thorough exploration of all available archival material, with the aim 'to leave no stone unturned, to cover all possible records, even if it took half a lifetime.' Pike's meticulous research methods had a lasting impact on Jack's approach to writing history, and influenced his seminal work, *Great Central State: The foundation of the Northern Territory* which was produced over a thirty-five year period. Jack referred to this book as his 'magnus opus' and acknowledged that the time taken to research this publication was lengthened through Pike's distrust of indexes, and his encouragement to inspect every possible record about the Northern Territory found within the State Records of South Australia, as well as every column in the *Advertiser*, *Register*, and *Northern Territory Times*.

It was South Australian Premier John Bannon who encouraged Jack to take on a leadership role with the Friends of South Australia's Archives. John Bannon had attended the initiating meetings of the Friends and was a strong advocate for a lobby

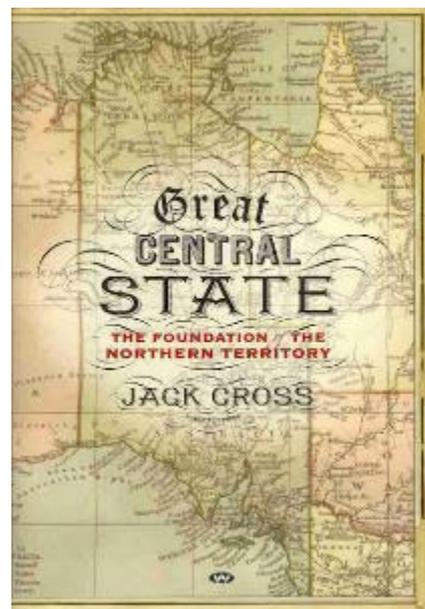
In this issue:

- Vale Jack Cross	1
- Jack Cross Fellowship Awards	3
- Australia Day Honours 2022	4
- State Records SA Strategic Plan	5
- NAA (SA) Consultative Forum	5
Defend the Past, Protect the Future	5
NAA Digitisation Projects	5
Centralised Storage for NAA Records	6
Director-General Simon Froude	6
NAA (SA) Report	6
- Archives in the Socials	7
- Advanced Notice of AGM	7
- FSAA Executive Committee	8

group in support of archives. Jack was conscious of the legacy of South Australian Archivist Gerald Fischer, who fought for government archives to receive adequate funding and space, to avoid the pressure to destroy records which would otherwise be preserved. While President of the Friends, Jack prioritised support for locally maintained small archives, coordinating meetings for those involved in community associations and societies, councils, and church groups, to encourage them to discuss their mutual issues.

While aware of the convenience provided by digitisation, Jack valued physical access to archived material. He argued that digitisation encouraged 'one page grabs of information' and discouraged the interrogation of documents within their broader context. Jack was uneasy about the centralisation of records in locations far from interested users. During Jack's tenure as President of the Friends of South Australia's Archives he supported the retention of the National Archives of Australia's South Australian material in Adelaide and would have preferred to see digitisation be undertaken locally.

Jack Cross was passionate about the pursuit and communication of historical knowledge, but he won great accolades as a highly-respected educator, and was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2013 for his work in higher education, and received a National Distinguished Teacher Award in 2015 for his work with art students. His teaching career began in the Northern Territory, at Darwin Area School and Alice Springs High School. On his return to South Australia, Jack assisted to initiate the Aboriginal Community College Tauondi, and supported the Anangu Teacher Education program in the APY Lands. In 1978 and 1979 he and his wife Jillian (née Bastian) travelled to the United States so that Jack could complete a Masters in Education at Stanford University. For twenty years Jack was the Head of Studies in Education at Underdale campus of Torrens College of Education (later part of the University of South Australia) and provided well-received lectures for the Workers Education Association (WEA), University of the Third Age (U3A), and the South Australia Central School of Art. Jack and his wife Jillian were actively engaged in community organisations. Jack was a founding member of the National Tertiary Education Union, and was made a life member of the WEA, U3A, and the Friends of the State Library.



At the latter stage of his career as an educator, Jack Cross was influential in the teaching of the history of ideas, particularly to arts students. This work inspired the text which occupied his retirement, 'Conversations with my Dog', which was an existential perspective on aging. With Jack's passing earlier this year, our thoughts are with his wife Jill, his brothers and sisters and their families.

You can read more about the life of Jack Cross in his obituary, 'A Teacher with a passion for life' *The Advertiser*, Saturday 2 April 2022, p 56, or in an interview published by *Inside History* in 2012, <http://insidehistorymagazine.blogspot.com/2012/08/author-q-jack-cross-great-central-state.html>

Jack Cross Fellowship Award Winners 2022

In its twenty-fifth year, the Friends of South Australia's Archives launched two small Fellowships of \$250 each per annum, named to recognize former President, Jack Cross AM. The Jack Cross Fellowships will be awarded annually to small history projects or to support students of South Australian history who are pursuing a dedicated program of research in archives, with a focus in the use of South Australian resources. These funds may be used for travel expenses to access records or put towards the copying or digitising of archival material. While the Friends will be flexible in how the Fellowship is to be used, the research focus must be on South Australia and the use of its associated archival records. The recipients will be required to provide a short piece for the FSAA newsletter on their research project.

Applications to the Jack Cross Fellowship were invited earlier this year and the Friends were impressed by both the volume and quality of applicants and their research projects. The Friends Committee had the difficult task of selecting the inaugural recipients and are pleased to announce that the Jack Cross Fellows for 2022 are Sharyn Clarke and Amanda Wells. We look forward to hearing more about their projects in an upcoming newsletter.



2022 Jack Cross Fellow Amanda Wells

University of Newcastle doctoral candidate Amanda Wells will be investigating the role of orange-growing in the ecological and social transformation of the Renmark district in the mid-twentieth century, under the supervision of Dr Julie McIntyre.

Using the newspaper *Murray Pioneer*, the industry newsletter *Citrus News*, and supporting governmental reports released by Department of Agriculture, Department of Lands, River Murray Commission, and others, Amanda will draw out an environmental and cultural history of how orange-growing shaped and was shaped by the Riverland. This will be the first environmental history in Australia to consider the citrus industry, and will contribute to understanding the human-nature relationship in context of economic development and growing environmental awareness through the twentieth century.

2022 Jack Cross Fellow Sharyn Clarke

Flinders University doctoral candidate Sharyn Clarke will be examining ideas about conservation in South Australia, starting from colonial settlement and proceeding until the establishment of Flinders Chase National Park. Sharyn is working under the supervision of Dr Alessandra Antonello and Professor Philip Payton.

This project is both a social and environmental history which seeks to uncover those people who are generally overlooked in the historical record, who expressed misgivings about changes to the landscape and the destruction of the South Australian fauna and flora and who questioned the environmental practices of the time, with a particular interest in finding women's voices.



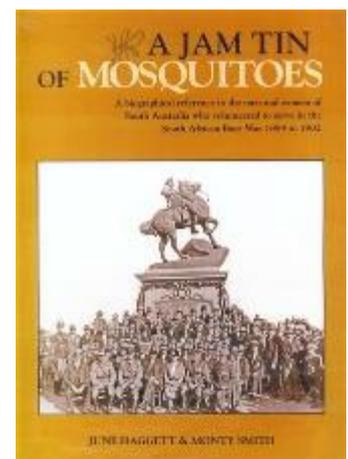


Australia Day Honours 2022

The Australia Day Awards in 2022 saw two South Australians awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for history. These were June Montgomery Smith and Lois Beverley Zweck.

June Montgomery (Monty) SMITH, OAM

Monty Smith was the author, along with June Haggett, of *A Jam Tin of Mosquitoes: A biographical reference to the men and women of South Australia who volunteered to serve in the South African War 1899 to 1902*, which was published in 2013 by DPA Publishing. Monty was the Secretary, and since 2014 has been the Chair of the South Australian Boer War Memorial Committee, www.bwm.org.au/about.php. You can hear more about Monty Smith through 'Conversations with Cornesy', <https://omny.fm/shows/conversations-with-cornesy/conversations-with-cornesy-june-montgomery-smith>



Lois Beverley ZWECK, OAM



Lois Zweck is the author of a number of books with a historical background, including, *Zweck: A family history* (1995); *The Voyage of the Gellert, Bremerhaven 27.8.1847 – Port Adelaide 21.12.1847* (1998); *Fritz Moeller & Sophie Luck: Migrants from Mecklenburg* (2007); plus dozens of articles which have appeared in the *Journal of the Friends of Lutheran Archives*. Lois Zweck was Chair of the Friends of Lutheran Archives (FoLA) from 1995 to 2014, having been a volunteer, translator, and research assistant at the Lutheran Archives from 1992. Lois has been on the Lutheran Archives advisory committee since 1998 and was made a Life Member of FoLA in 2014. Lois was a founding Committee Member of the German Heritage Research Group which was initiated in 2010. In 2017 she was awarded the Lifelong History Achievement Award by the History Council of South Australia. You can read more here — <https://www.lca.org.au/lutheran-researcher-honoured/>

State Records of South Australia's Strategic Plan

State Records of South Australia have invited the Friends of South Australia's Archives to contribute priorities to their next strategic plan, which will establish goals and strategies for the next three years,

<https://archives.sa.gov.au/general-information/about-us/who-we-are/state-records-strategic-plan>.

The Friends of South Australia's Archives will be one of the fourteen organisations involved in consultation through a series of workshops. It is expected that the *State Records Act 1997* and the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* will be the focus of some attention. Another issue for discussion will be the need to upgrade the State Records of South Australia's ArchivesSearch platform, <https://catalogue.archives.sa.gov.au>. We will inquire about the progress of digitisation through FamilySearch, the availability of digital materials, and the perceived approach of the new South Australian Labor Government to State Records.

NAA South Australia Consultative Forum Report

The last meeting of the National Archives of Australia's South Australia Consultative Forum took place in the Brownyn Halliday Studio at the State Library of South Australia on Tuesday, 29 March 2022. This Forum serves a useful function in providing a meeting space for representatives of South Australia's history and archival associations. There were fourteen people in attendance, either in the room or online via Teams. The National Archives of Australia was represented by Assistant Director-General (Collection Management) Steven Fox, Assistant Director-General (Access and Public Engagement) Louise Doyle, Director (National Network Coordination) Celia Blake, as well as the South Australian Branch Staff, State Manager Nick Gleghorn and Assistant Manager Emily Richardson.

The following South Australian organisations were represented at the meeting: History Council of South Australia, Northern Areas History Group, The Friends of South Australia's Archives, the Professional Historians Association, Flinders University Archive, State Records of South Australia, Australian Society of Archivists, Records and Information Management Professionals of Australasia, and Genealogy South Australia.

Defend the Past, Protect the Future Program

Steven Fox discussed the NAA's 'Defend the Past, Protect the Future Program', www.naa.gov.au/about-us/our-organisation/accountability-and-reporting/defend-past-protect-future-program, which aims to 'digitise at-risk records, ease the access examination backlog, upgrade the Archives' digital archive and improve cybersecurity'. These are all ambitious aims. Part of this program is the creation of a Digitisation Hub located in Canberra and operated by outsourced company, MicroImage. As discussed in previous FSAA newsletters, records from the South Australian and Tasmanian branches of NAA have been relocated to Canberra for digitisation by MicroImage. NAA reports that 'over 2,600 items and 44,000 images have now been loaded to RecordSearch' since the creation of the Digitisation Hub.

NAA Digitisation Projects

In 2019 \$10 million was granted to the NAA for the WWII Digitisation Project which, with additional sources of funding, aims to digitise all WWII service records. A digitisation of RAAF personal files has also begun thanks to a \$1 million donation from Barbara Mason in Sydney. Administration files of the RAAF will also be digitised through funding from the RAAF Foundation. Approximately 95,000 WWI enlistment applications have been digitised through a partnership with Ancestry. The Albury City Council is funding the digitisation of migrant cards from the Bonegilla Migrant Camp, and a partnership with the Dutch embassy has commenced which will provide funding to digitise Dutch records.

Centralised Storage for NAA Records

The relocation of NAA state-based records to Canberra continues as the leases for each existing storage facility expires. For South Australia, this means that 4 km of material has been moved to the ACT, with a small collection remaining in Adelaide, stored at the State Library of South Australia. Some records have been retained in South Australia to be described locally prior to relocation.

The Tasmanian branch of NAA sent 1.1 km of records to Canberra earlier this year. These South Australian and Tasmanian records are now being prioritised by the Digitisation Hub. Approximately 1 km of Northern Territory records are due to be relocated in June, with consultation regarding digitisation priorities now underway. The lease on Victoria's East Burwood storage facility is due to end in 2024, and the relocation of these records will be enormous undertaking, with over 50 km of records currently stored in Victoria.

NAA's New Director-General Simon Froude

The appointment of South Australia's Simon Froude as the new Director-General of the National Archives of Australia was greeted with great satisfaction. Simon Froude had been the Director and State Archivist at State Records of South Australia and began his five-year appointment with the NAA on 23 May 2022. Simon's states that his 'driving passion is to improve the accessibility of government records, with a particular focus on improving access to individuals and groups impacted by past government policy.' Simon will remain based in South Australia with an office within the SA branch of the NAA and will fly to Canberra as required. We wish Simon all the best in his new role.

NAA (SA) Report

South Australia's NAA State Manager Nick Gleghorn reported on the volume of South Australian digitised material which has been uploaded into RecordSearch, <https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au>, since January 2022. The Digitisation Hub is currently proactively prioritising South Australian and Tasmanian records, but there is also a digitisation-on-demand process in place to provide free or reduced free copies to researchers in South Australia and Tasmania. Standard paper files under 100 pages can be provided free, and the cost to digitise and provide files over 100 pages has been reduced from \$245.40 to \$39.90.

The NAA South Australian branch is conducting public engagement activities, with a particular focus on educating the public on how to identify and access records through RecordSearch. This is also a series of public events held as part of South Australia's History Festival.

The next meeting of the South Australian Consultative Forum will be held in September 2022.

Dedication Service for Archivists and Archives



Archivists, archives staff, volunteers, students, and friends of archives are invited to attend the ASA SA Branch ecumenical dedication service for archivists and archives. After the dedication service, there will be a presentation by David Whyatt (Churches of Christ Archivist) on the "joys" of running a small archive. The presentation will be followed by morning tea, for which we request a small donation on the day to help cover costs.

Date: Wednesday, 8 June 2022

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Place: Brooklyn Park Church of Christ, 3 Allen Ave, Brooklyn Park SA 5032

www.archivists.org.au/events/event/sa-jun22-dedication

Archives on the Socials

State Records of South Australia @StateRecordsSA

During National Reconciliation Week, State Records of SA are exploring how people can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia and learn more about Australia's shared histories, cultures and achievements
#NRW2022 #BeBraveMakeChange <https://twitter.com/StateRecordsSA>

International Council of Archives @ICAArchiv

International Archives Week #IAW2022

From 6 to 10 June 2022

The International Council of Archives started a virtual conversation as part of the third ICA's social media campaign where they looked to invite archival and record management professionals and organisations to join them in a virtual conversation about what archival records reflect, i.e. stories and to consider what it means to be an archivist. There is a full programme of webinars during #IAW2022 in an attempt to show the world why and how #ArchivesAreYou. Check them out on Twitter using @ICAArchiv where you find out how to be a part of the 5 days dedicated to #IAW2022 Webinars.

National Archives of Australia @naagovau

Remind us that a diverse array of records can be found on their website <https://t.co/l4Pt83AAgg> They include an image of Eddie Koiki Mabo in their latest Tweet #NRW2022 #BeBraveMakeChange

Variety @Variety

Quentin Tarantino and Roger Avary are set to Launch 'The Video Archives Podcast' next month
<https://variety.com/2022/digital/news/quentin-tarantino-roger-avary-video-archives-podcast-1235283963/>

Reconciliation Australia @RecAustralia

They are Australia's leading body for reconciliation and have just published Issue 47 of *Reconciliation News* that embodies the National Reconciliation Week 2022 theme, Be Brave. Make Change #NRW2022 #BeBraveMakeChange



Follow us on Twitter! @FSAArchives

Advance notice for the FSAA 2022 Annual General Meeting

The 2022 Annual General Meeting for the Friends of South Australia's Archives will held on
Wednesday, 19 October 2022 at 6pm
at the Box Factory Community Centre.

We welcome all members to attend as well as anyone with an interest in South Australia's archival collections. Please email FSAA@outlook.com to register your interest.



The Friends of South Australia's Archives Inc

Executive Committee

President:	Andrew Peake (agpeake@gmail.com)
Secretary:	Johanne Taylor (taylorjohanne@hotmail.com)
Treasurer:	Sandra Kearney (sandra.kearney@flinders.edu.au)
Membership:	Sandra Kearney (sandra.kearney@flinders.edu.au)
Newsletter Editor:	Heidi Ing (heidi.ing@flinders.edu.au)
Committee:	Ian Sutherland (jwemit@ihug.com.au) Wilfrid Prest (wilfrid.prest@adelaide.edu.au)
Public Officer:	Andrew Peake (agpeake@gmail.com)

Do you have any feedback or comments related to a South Australian archive?

Contact the Friends of South Australia's Archives.

Email: Andrew Peake (agpeake@gmail.com)

Postal: Friends of South Australia's Archives, 14 Tudor Street, Dulwich, 5065, South Australia

Newsletter Contributions

Contributions to the Newsletter are most welcome. The Newsletter Editor can be contacted via email.

Email: Heidi Ing (fsaa@outlook.com).

The FSAA and the editor do not hold themselves responsible for statements made or opinions expressed by authors of the papers published in this newsletter.
No article or item may be reproduced without written approval.



George Cockburn Henderson (1870-1944), Professor of History, Adelaide University (1902-1923) was largely responsible for the establishment of South Australia's first archival office in 1920.