



Thursday, 21 July 2022  
9:30 am – 1:00 pm  
University of South Australia  
City West, Hawke Building



Overland Telegraph  
150th Anniversary  
1872-2022

## Overland Telegraph Sesquicentennial Symposium

The Australian Overland Telegraph Line was a single wire that connected Port Augusta in South Australia to Port Darwin in the Northern Territory. Sometimes called Australia's 19th century Internet, it was completed in 1872 in a remarkably short time, given the challenges involved. With this connection to the global telegraph network, its near instantaneous communication with the world went a long way to dissipate the Tyranny of Distance felt by the people and institutions of colonial Australia.

The OT-150 Symposium will feature a kaleidoscope of speakers presenting newly researched information about the Overland Telegraph Line, what preceded it, the heroic efforts to build it and what followed. All speakers are experts in their topics, bringing interesting facts and themes that will stimulate your thoughts, not only on this historical event, but also on some the developments it wrought on the social and historic fabric of colonial Australia.

### Opening by:

Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia

### Facilitated by:

..... Keith Conlon OAM

### Communications Before the OTL

.....Richard Venus, Engineering historian

### Building the Overland Telegraph

.....Derek Pugh OAM, NT historian and author

### Impact on First Nations Peoples

....Susie Herzberg OAM, Urban & Environmental  
Planner

### *refreshments*

### Managing the Line, First 10 Years

..... Professor Denis Cryle, Todd biographer

### More Than Infrastructure

.....Dr. Philip Jones, SA Museum

### What's Left 150 Years Later

.....Andrew Crouch, Overland Telegraph historian

### Book Launch – Twenty to the Mile by Derek Pugh

.....Barry Todd, great grandson of Sir Charles Todd

### Meet the author - Derek Pugh

..... optional after close of the event

**Search Overland Telegraph Symposium and register on Eventbrite**

*COVID - large venue makes social distancing possible*



Scan QR code