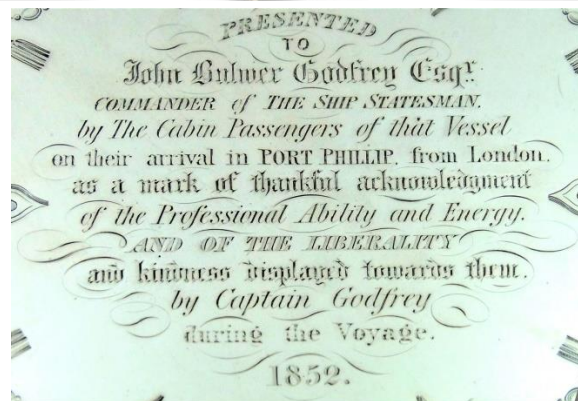


SA Australiana Study Group 57th Meeting, 3 September 2020

We recommend readers to the Australiana Society website
<https://www.australiana.org.au/> and encourage membership. Attendance: 12



Silver salver “presented” to Captain Godfrey in 1852 by his passengers to Geelong.

Diameter 49 cm.

Hallmarks on the salver for London, assay year 1852/53, and mark of the supplier, Edward Barnard & Sons, London.

Image courtesy of Woolley & Wallis Salerooms Ltd.

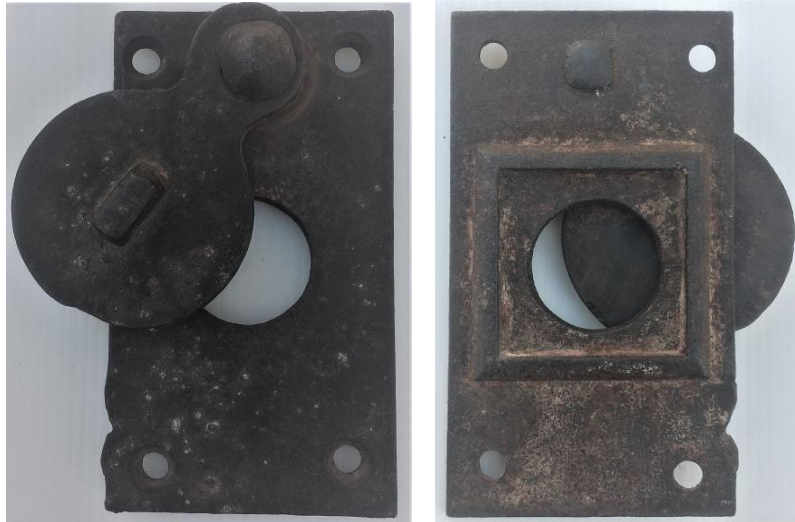
With the Australian gold rush in full swing, and a heavy demand for passages to Australia, in 1852 the British Emigration Commissioners engaged Captain John Bulwer Godfrey's ship *Statesman* to carry emigrants from London to Geelong, then an important "jumping off point" for the goldfields. Carrying cabin passengers and 233 others in intermediate and steerage she reached Geelong on 23 September, after a comfortable voyage. Before reaching the anchorage and dispersing the cabin passengers, 13 single and six family groups, presented their captain with a written testimonial, along with a purse of 42 sovereigns. They asked that the money be used "... for the purchase of some article in accordance with your taste, as a lasting memorial of our esteem and regard..." It is apparent that once Godfrey reached home he did exactly that, buying his salver and having it engraved with words reflecting those on his testimonial.

Godfrey (1818-1881) had earlier played an important part in South Australian and Australian maritime history. While studying for his "First Class Extra" certificate he learnt of new studies in navigation and meteorology, and the potential they held for improving passage times by more efficient course plotting and the use of the band of circumpolar winds, the "roaring forties". Newly qualified, aged only 30, and in charge of a new ship, the *Constance*, in May 1848 he sailed for Adelaide and reached it in the creditable time of 91 days, where he "...added 216 souls to our population." On leaving Adelaide and heading for Shanghai he carried pig lead from the Glen Osmond Mining Co.

In November 1849 Godfrey and the *Constance* were back in Adelaide after sailing by the Great Circle route from Plymouth in 77 days on a voyage hailed as "... the most brilliant transit ever." The average voyage at that time took 110 days. The mercantile community of Adelaide was astounded and delighted, and put on a grand dinner for him at Coppin's Hotel, while the newspapers "back home" took note of this important breakthrough in long distance travel. On the return voyage the *Constance* carried a cargo of copper from Kapunda.

Godfrey returned to Adelaide with emigrants on the *Constance* in 1850, in 102 days, unable to match the previous voyage time as the Emigration Commissioners had forbidden him to sail further south than 40 degrees. The following year in a new ship, the *Statesman*, Godfrey repeated his earlier success. He sailed from Plymouth to Geelong in 77 days, 300 miles further than the 1849 voyage and in 12 sailing hours less. The advantage was somewhat lost when for three weeks he couldn't discharge his cargo – the crew of the lighter *William* had all deserted. Always appreciated by his passengers, Godfrey was back at Geelong in 1852, the year of the salver presentation, and then on his final voyage in the *Statesman* in 1853.

With his reputation made, Godfrey was master of several other vessels, before taking to the shore life by settling in New Zealand for several years and engaging in other ventures. These turned out "somewhat unfortunate", and he later retired to Devon, where he died in 1881.



Port Arthur prison cell door peephole.



Fremantle Prison cell door peephole



Pentridge Prison cell door peephole

All cast iron and measure 65cm x 116 cm – all are slightly different in a number of ways, makers unknown.

Port Arthur; this penal settlement housed convicts from 1833 and closed in 1877. The property was put up for auction shortly after the closure, but most of it was sold as late as 1889. The buyers tore down many buildings, and two bushfires in the 1890s destroyed more of them. The location was renamed Carnarvon. By 1927 with the growth of tourism the town's name was reverted back to Port Arthur. Two books in particular, *The Broad Arrow*, 1849, by Caroline Leakey and *For the Term of His Natural Life*, 1874, by Marcus Clarke, that were set in Port Arthur created interest in visiting the settlement. In 2010 the site was heritage listed and currently has over 250,000 visitors each year.

The owner of the peephole acquired it in 1987 from Nevin Hurst of Hobart and since then has visited Port Arthur on several occasions, noting that the peepholes there are identical to his.

Fremantle Prison; construction began in early 1851 and was completed by 1859, built by Royal Engineers and convicts. Initially it was used to hold convicts transported from Britain, and was funded by the British government until 1886, when the WA government purchased it. It was then used to only hold locally sentenced prisoners. The prison closed in 1991 after much overcrowding and rioting, and the remaining buildings are now heritage listed. Originally known as the Imperial Convict Establishment, in 1867 it was renamed Fremantle Prison. It is now a major a tourist attraction at Fremantle, the port suburb of Perth. The current owner of the peephole purchased it some 15 years ago at a North Fremantle antique shop that held various dealers' stock. Once acquired, he visited the prison and verified the shape of the peephole. The tourist guide there was an ex-guard of the gaol and the owner found him rather confronting. However the owner recommends a visit to see the buildings, relics of prison life, and the art work drawn by prisoners in their cells.

The prison was partially used as a military gaol during both world wars – for the detention of military personnel, as well as an internment centre. From 1940 until 1946 it was one of more than 50 military prisons across Australia, holding a combined total of more than 12,000 enemy aliens and prisoners of war.

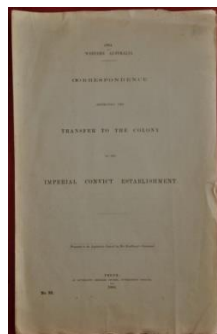
Her Majesty's Prison Pentridge; established in 1851 in Coburg, now a suburb of Melbourne. The first prisoners arrived in 1851 and the prison closed on 1st May 1997. When first opened it was simply a series of ad-hoc designed buildings, and about a decade later additional buildings were added in line with British and American precedents. The peephole has been dated to this period. In 1924 it became the main prison in Victoria and five years later all the prisoners in Melbourne Gaol were transferred to Pentridge. Some of the buildings were demolished and items were salvaged. The current owner purchased the peephole several decades ago from Ian Armstrong's antique shop in Melbourne.



A peephole from Gladstone Gaol in situ.

In response to seeing the three peepholes an attendee showed a photo of a peephole taken on his phone and said he and his wife recently spend a night at Gladstone Gaol. It was as tourists, to share the experience his wife's great grandfather, Robert Shearer. Shearer spent a short stint in Gladstone Gaol on the way to Yatala for six months of hard-labour for larceny, at age 60, in August 1908. The family had hit on hard times and had gone bankrupt.

The Gladstone Gaol, located in the Southern Flinders Rangers in South Australia was built between 1879 and 1881 and housed 'inebriates and debtors' with up to 86 prisoners being held in the original building. During World War II it was used as an internment camp for Italians and Germans. In 1955 the complex was increased to 125 cells. The prison closed in 1975 and opened to visitors in 1978. You can now stay in a cell for \$20 a night and the gaol is now listed on the South Australian Heritage Register. The peephole is identical to the Fremantle prison example



An official document recording the Correspondence respecting the transfer to the colony of the Imperial Convict Establishment.

Richard Pether, Government Printer, 1884, 7 pages, 22 × 34 cm.

The correspondence dates from 22 May 1883 to 21 July 1884. The document reveals that the Establishment was built to hold 600 prisoners, and as of 31 December 1883 contained 83, of whom 23 were chargeable to Colonial funds, thus 60 transported convicts were held there at that time, plus 48 invalids of whom 2 were chargeable to the colony. Payment to the Colonial government from the Imperial Government was set at £45 per annum for transported convicts and for lunatics £42. Transfer all assets free of charge to the colony. All imperial officers to be pensioned off and some may be reemployed by the Colony. All buildings to be handed over in good repair; this last was the only request was not agreed to.



ANSON'S
Photographic Institution,
45, RUNDLE STREET.



Lieutenant Frederick Howard R.N. of H.M. Surveying Schooner *Beatrice*, carte de visite photograph, 1863, Henry Anson, Adelaide. 10 x 6 cm.

***HMS Beatrice* at Adelaide, c1881.** Image courtesy Aust. War Memorial, Naval History Collection, ref. 302144.

Frederick Howard (1833 - 1891) was the son of a Royal Navy officer, turned novelist and editor, who died in 1841. Frederick himself joined the Navy in 1848, and in 1852 was aboard *HMS Herald* as it began a nine year voyage of exploration and surveying in the south-west Pacific. In 1861, the then captain, John Hutchinson, was asked to survey the South Australian coastline and a 100', two masted schooner, *Beatrice*, was jointly purchased by the South Australian colony and the Royal Navy. Howard - now a lieutenant - joined Hutchinson. The

Beatrice also surveyed the NT coastline, often under the command of Howard, and assisted the early Northern Territory settlement of Escape Cliffs (1864 -66).

On one trip Howard fell into dispute with Finnis, the Government Resident, refusing to turn his ship into a "cow barge" to transport livestock. It also supported John McKinlay's expedition to search for a more suitable town site. In an 1865 report Howard recommended Darwin as a port for any future settlement. The *Beatrice* was decommissioned in 1880 and Howard worked briefly for the NSW Harbours Dept. before suffering an accident which resulted in an early retirement in 1883. He died eight years later, never fully recovering from his injuries. Howard Springs, near Darwin, and the Hundred of Howard, further south, were named after him.



**"Harriet Douglas", carte de visite photograph, c.1863/64, Peter Schourup, Pt Adelaide.
10 x 6 cm.**



B 4638 Reproduction rights: State Library of South Australia

Samuel Sweet's photograph moments after the first OT pole planting ceremony – 15 Sept. 1870. Harriet is immediately to our left of centre, still holding the rammer.

Image courtesy State Library of SA: B 4638.

Harriet Douglas (1851-1927) was the eldest daughter of Captain William Bloomfield Douglas, a Welsh merchant navy captain. In 1854 Douglas became Harbourmaster and Collector of Customs at Port Adelaide. In 1870 he was appointed the first Government Resident of the newly surveyed Palmerston and moved there with his family. Referring to himself as Governor of the Northern Territory, he became known for excessive drinking and public spending, and also for promoting gold rushes rather than assisting construction of the Overland Telegraph. He also threatened police with a firearm while drunk on the roof of the Government Residence. He was eventually asked to resign in 1873.

On September 15, 1870, in Palmerston, the first pole of the Overland Telegraph was christened with a bottle of wine and raised into position. Harriet ceremonially compacted the earth around it with a purpose made rammer. Captain Samuel Sweet photographed the occasion moments later. The rammer is in the collection of the Museum of the Northern Territory.

Harriet later married one of the telegraph line's surveyors, Dominic Daly (nephew to the South Australian Governor of the same name). They moved to British Malaya where Daly died while travelling in Borneo. Moving to London, Mrs Dominic Daly published "Digging, Squatting and Pioneering Life in the Northern Territory of South Australia" (1887) and became a London columnist for the Sydney Morning Herald.



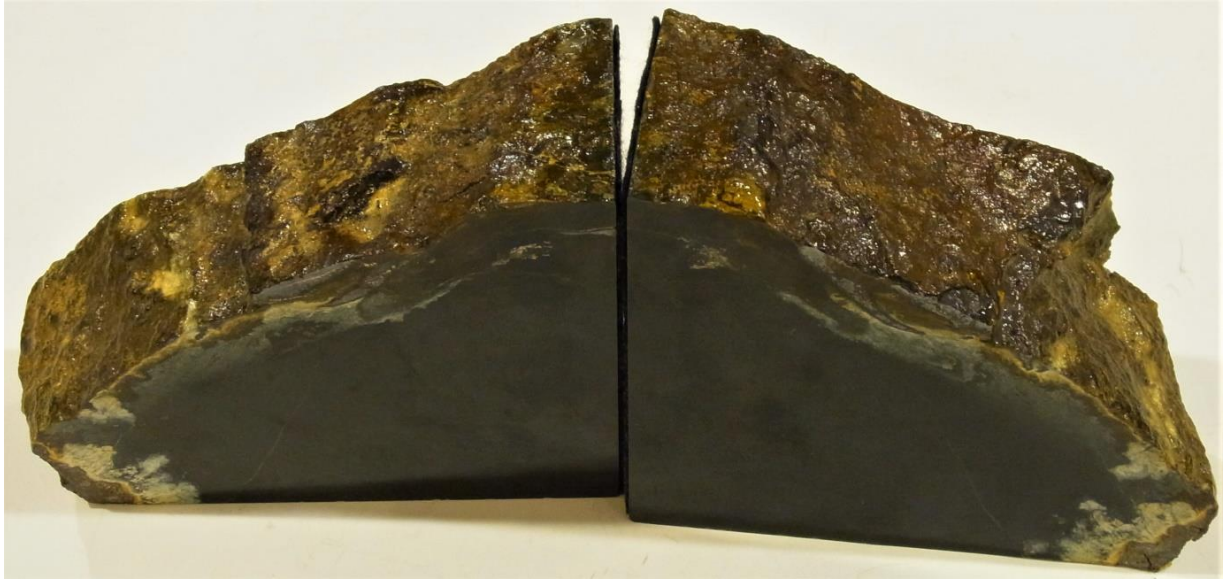
An official bronze award medal celebrating Australia's Bicentenary in 1988, with the steel die for the obverse, by Stokes of Melbourne.

The medal obverse has an abstract (folded ribbon) map of Australia surrounded by a crowd of people, young and old, involved in various activities, with AUSTRALIA 1788-1988 around the bottom.

The reverse has a blank panel surrounded by flowers. Pantographed on the panel, C. HENRY /SEABROOK /16.2.88. The medal is 44 mm in diameter, and was manufactured by Stokes of Melbourne. The obverse was designed by popular Queensland sculptor Mike Tracey and the reverse by well-known sculptor and medallist Michael Meszaros of Kew, Victoria.

C. Henry's biographical details are as yet unknown. *Seabrook, Victoria*, is 19 km SW of Melbourne's CBD and is within the City of Hobsons Bay local government area.

Literature: *Australian Bicentenary Medals* by LJ Carlisle, c.1990, the MCC of Sydney. Most likely our medal is number 17 in the book, described as a community award medal.



Pair of Cowell jade bookends, SA, c1976. 12 x 15 x 4 cm.

In 1965 a local farmer, Harry Schiller, was prospecting near Cowell, a town of about 1,000 population on Franklin Harbour, on the eastern coast of Eyre Peninsula. A small boulder he collected was identified as nephrite jade, and later exploration delineated what is now known as the Cowell Jade Province, an area of about ten square kilometres. Three main varieties were brought to market; green nephrite, black nephrite, and a prized premium black which takes a high polish. These bookends were bought in 1976 and are of black nephrite, retaining the rind of the host boulder on the uncut surfaces.

Due to its extreme toughness jade has been prized for thousands of years and was used for weapons, tools and ornaments in Neolithic culture. Its assumed importance and religious symbolism in such diverse societies as the Mayan, Aztec, Maori and Chinese.

The South Australian resource is now primarily controlled by Cowell Jade, a division of Gemstones Australia, and is a world class deposit, possibly the world's largest, with an estimated reserve of 80,000 tonnes. The initial hopes that it would spur a local industry in cutting and shaping the stone have faded, and the raw material is now exported mainly to Asia.



A pair of hand-modelled glazed earthenware figural bookends, signed by Valeria Correll, Melbourne. Height 18 cm.

Formed as a pair of Chinese court figures, one bearing a remnant exhibition or price sticker, these were made by the Port Augusta SA born Valeria Correll (1886-1973), also known as “Lalla”, who moved to Melbourne when young. There she trained in art and craft at the

Working Men's College, but first made pottery at home, as her mother was a potter. At the 1907 Women's Work Exhibition in Melbourne, Correll gained a prize for sculpture (a bas relief), and by 1910-12 was showing pottery and enamels with the Melbourne Society of Women Painters and Sculptors. Her interest in pottery continued, with a kiln installed at her home in 1941, and her works being exhibited into the post-war period.

Noted for her highly coloured art nouveau pots, some of which appear to show the influence of Castle Harris in their decoration, she also produced at her home figural groups "representative of modern life". An artist and illustrator as well, in 1923 her children's book *Gay Gambols: A Nonsense Story* was published in Melbourne. Following Valeria's death, her sister Alice donated work by Correll to the National Gallery of Australia, and the National Gallery of Victoria.



"Taylor's Plant, Moonta Mines, 1910", photograph. 26 x 30 cm.

The Moonta and Wallaroo mines were discovered within 18 months of each other by shepherds on the pastoral leases of Captain William Hughes. Worked separately, they were amalgamated in 1890, until closing in the 1920s. Moonta was the richer initially, and became the first mine in Australia to pay one million pounds in dividends (1876).

Elder's Lode was the most persistent of five parallel ore-bodies and was mined for a length of one kilometre from ten shafts. Taylor's Shaft was the principal shaft, named after John Taylor, an original shareholder, and reaching almost 800 metres. It was initially hauled by horse-whim and then by a Cornish beam engine. In this 1910 view, the headframe, centre, sits directly over the shaft with an ore-sorting plant (and office) to the left, and a 1901 winding-

house (holding a horizontal steam engine) to the right. The foundations of both the sorting plant and winding-house remain, and are within the Moonta Mines State Heritage Area.

Both Edwin Marchant and Edwin Duryea were established studio photographers in the district at this time, either of whom may have taken and printed this larger format photograph.



"Early Morning Moonta Mines" 1/25, c1927, Allan C. Glover (1900 - 1984), aquatint, Adelaide. 9 x 14 cm.

Allan Clifford Glover (1900-1984) attended the South Australian School of Arts and Crafts from 1922 and studied painting under May Grigg and etching under John Goodchild. In 1925 he was admitted to the South Australian Society of Arts and in 1927 held his first one-man exhibition with 72 works of paintings and prints. It was reviewed in the "News" under the headline "Fine Work by Mr Glover" and the opening sentence began "One of the most promising newcomers in the ranks of the younger generations of Australian artists ..." His work was described as "... bold and essentially masculine in style without being aggressive" and "It is as an etcher that the young artist has done his finest work. Included in the exhibition are two gems of aquatint, Early Morning Moonta Mines ..." This work was later acquired by the Western Australian Art Gallery, and, by 1931, his prints were also held by the NGV and AGSA. He served as president of the Royal South Australian Society of Arts 1956 -1958.

The view here of Taylor's Shaft is similar to the 1910 photograph, although mining had finished in 1923. Curiously, the scene is identical to a "Moonta Series" postcard (unknown date) which may have served as the basis for this print.

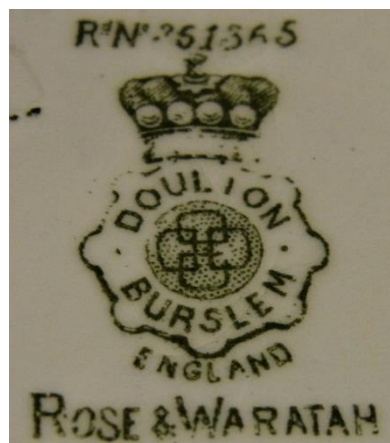


Studio art glass vase with trailed decoration, signed on the base by Mike Hook, Adelaide, early 1980s. Height 15 cm, diameter 21 cm.

With its milky white compressed spherical body and pink trailed line and dot ornamentation, this vase would probably have been produced during Hook's training period at the Adelaide Jam Factory 1980-82. Having worked there with Nick Mount, when Mount set up his own studio at Budgeree in Victoria, Hook joined him there to extend his training during 1982-83.

Hook's preference was to develop high quality production glass rather than individual exhibition pieces, and to further this ambition, set up his own Resolution Glassworks at Kensington in Melbourne in 1984. Working with a series of assistants he produced blown glasses, goblets and bowls, but is probably best known for his perfume bottles. Many of these relied in simplicity of form and palette, some incorporating colourful glass chips or foils, others of pure single colour in cased glass, or incorporating an air bubble. These techniques are also to be seen in his series of paperweights.

Hook closed the Resolution Glassworks in 2005 to concentrate on other projects, including acting as design and production adviser to a Balinese ceramic producer between 2006 and 2009. His career took on a late change when from 2012 he studied architecture at Victoria University, Melbourne.



"Rose & Waratah" dinner plate, c1900, Doulton Burslem, England. Transfer printed earthenware. Diameter 26.4 cm.

Registered in 1900, this transfer design is similar to the "Wattle" plate following, but instead features the English rose in combination with the Australian native rose and the waratah. This example printed in green.



"Wattle and Flannel Flowers" serving dish, c1910, unknown maker - stamped "GDS", possibly Australia. Transfer printed earthenware. 42.4 x 32.5 cm.

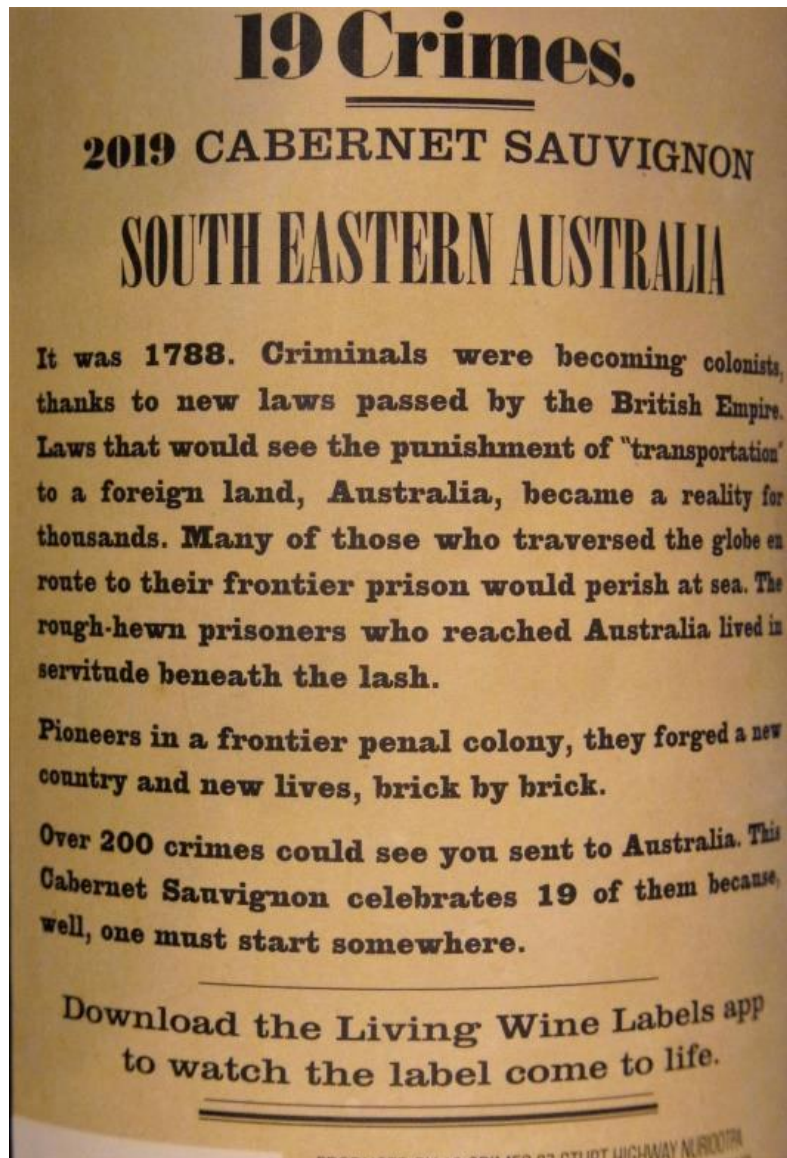
The triangular GDS stamp is currently a mystery, and this serving dish may belong to a group of Australian manufactured tableware made to imitate English earthenware. The transfer printing is very similar to the examples above and could have been purchased from the specialist English engravers who supplied the Staffordshire potteries. Printed in brown, the design also features a border of rococo scroll work. It is similar to a Flannel flower jug known to be manufactured by the Australian pottery Bakewell Brothers of Sydney, c 1913.



"Wattle" dinner plate, c1892, Doulton Burslem, England, for J. H. Gartrell & Co., Adelaide. Transfer printed earthenware. Diameter 27 cm.

The transfer printed "Wattle" design was registered by Doulton in 1892 but likely would have been in production for a number of years thereafter. Made for the Australian market, this example is also marked for the retailer - John Henry Gartrell (1846-1925) of 144 Rundle Street, Adelaide. The pattern was used on cream coloured table and toilet wares and could be printed in either sepia or blue-green. The design is a mix of flowering wattle and Australian Fuschia.

The information above was largely gained from Marjorie Graham's article "Printed Ceramics in Australia", 2006.



Bottle of 19 Crimes 2019 Cabernet

Following on from our introduction to the wine brand 19 Crimes at meeting 55, on this occasion we were shown a demonstration of the “Living Wine Labels app” promoted by the brand owner, Treasury Wines. As the mobile phone with the app was held in front of the bottle label, on the screen appeared an image of the felon concerned, who in a broad Irish accent related a brief account of his felony, with lips moving and grim visage!

The overland journey of John Keighran (1802-1858).

Not all our presentations at meetings involve objects. On this occasion one of our members entertained and educated us with an account of a forebear, John Patrick Keighran. Born at Campbelltown NSW in 1802 to two Irish convicts, at the age of 17 John had lost both his parents, and was homeless, living in the care of a local resident. A year later he submitted a Memorial to the Governor, endorsed by one Robert Cartwright, who wrote glowingly of the boy's character. As a result John was granted 60 acres of land at Campbelltown.

By the 1841 census he had accumulated 3,000 acres nearby, with more holdings including an inn and two stone houses in the town, plus more land in partnership with his brother. He set up a private race track on his estate just outside Campbelltown, and bred thoroughbred racehorses.

Widespread drought across NSW in the 1840s may have led him to take some of his horses overland to SA, as he and some of his sons left Sydney with 118 head on 10 April 1848. They arrived at Adelaide four months later with 112 of them, having sold some on the way. He wrote a lengthy account of the journey, published in the *South Australian Register* of 30 September 1848. In it he detailed their adventures and recorded the almost uniform hospitality of the settlers along the way. Writing of their encounters with Aboriginal inhabitants, the help they offered in finding tracks and overcoming obstacles was warmly appreciated. He made detailed observations along the way, noting the vegetation and geography, and wondering at the dense grasshopper plague they passed through along the Lachlan River.

Once in Adelaide, Keighran set up his headquarters at Thomas Ottoway's Victoria Inn, on Hindley Street, and successfully negotiated the sale of his livestock. He was to express his grateful thanks through the letter, writing "For the kind treatment I have received from the inhabitants of Adelaide, and every place I came through, on my way, I am at a loss to know how to return thanks... I am however so taken up with Adelaide, that, please God, if I live to see another year, I shall be very likely to re-visit it".

Collector activities in Adelaide

The Adelaide Society of Collectors – holds regular talks, occasional visits and a Christmas Dinner. Further details contact Theadelaidesocietyofcollectors@bigpond.com

The David Roche Foundation Museum – holds regular talks and exhibitions. For more information visit their website <https://www.rochefoundation.com.au/>

History Trust of South Australia – museums and talks. For details visit their website <https://history.sa.gov.au/>