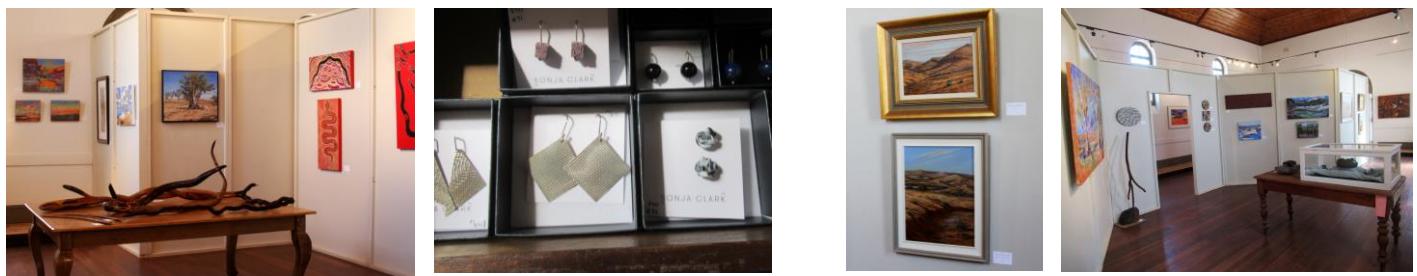


# THE BLINMAN HERALD

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER  
2021

## ARTISTS of THE RANGES

Blinman held its annual art exhibition from the 18<sup>th</sup> September to 10<sup>th</sup> October. Another successful year lots of visitor through and plenty of good comments. The exhibition was opened by Mary Clock-Clark we shared some memories of Lesley Slade who was with the exhibition from the beginning and worked very hard over the years along with other committee members. Over a hundred people attended the opening, with about 1,900 people passing through the door over the open period, quite a few painting were sold. Sales were down on other years but having no interstate visitor due to covid may have played a part. Big thank you to everyone who helped in many ways it can't happened without the communities support and with only 3 people on the committee it would be impossible for us to do it all. So a big thanks you to all.



## Happy Birthday

**Kathy Fargher, Irving Cains ,Alice Fargher , Chris McColl, Emily Hilder, Natalie McMillan & Paul Anderson**

**Dudley Reschke, John Henery, Darren Marshall, Melissa Scicluna, Alex Reschke, Tom McIntosh, Barb Fels, Mary Fisher, Eddie Carmichel & James McIntosh**

**Happy Birthday to anyone else having a Birthday**



**LORD, Kenneth Hurtle**

19/09/2021

LORD, Kenneth Hurtle

Formerly of Heathpool

Passed away at Allity Walkerville on Monday 20th September  
Aged 94 years

Father and father-in-law of Heather and Kin, John and Felicity

**Vale - Margaret Coad (nee McRae)**

Loved wife of Jim Coad (now deceased), loving mother of 7 children: - Peter, Trevor (now deceased), Jennifer (now deceased), Philip, Malcolm, and Virginia and Lynette Coad.

A Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Mum passed away 1/10/2021 aged 93.

## CONTACTS LIST

### BPA Executives:

**Chair** – Brendan Reynolds

[reynoldswsp@activ8.net.au](mailto:reynoldswsp@activ8.net.au)

**Vice Chair** – Amy Marshall

[marshallamy57@gmail.com](mailto:marshallamy57@gmail.com)

**Secretary** - Greg Willocks

[blinman.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:blinman.secretary@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** – Daniel Lynch

### BPA Sub Committees & Services:

**Airstrip Information** - Ian Fargher 86484863

[oratunga@bigpond.com](mailto:oratunga@bigpond.com)

**Art Exhibition** – Alice Fargher 86484863

[oratunga@bigpond.com](mailto:oratunga@bigpond.com)

**Blinman Herald** – Karen Cains 86484874

[belmont4@bigpond.com](mailto:belmont4@bigpond.com)

**Catering** – Maureen Cutri 86484839

[blinman@senet.com.au](mailto:blinman@senet.com.au)

**Cemetery/Walking Trails/Main Street** – Sally Henery 86484626

[alpana2@bigpond.com](mailto:alpana2@bigpond.com)

**Gymkhana** – Amy Marshall

[marshallamy57@gmail.com](mailto:marshallamy57@gmail.com)

**Mine Tours** – Susan Pearl 86484782

[info@heritageblinmanmine.com.au](mailto:info@heritageblinmanmine.com.au)

**RFDS Clinic** – Di or Alice Fargher 86484863

[oratunga@bigpond.com](mailto:oratunga@bigpond.com)

**Waste Management** – Rory Reschke 86484892

To the  
Editor, Blinman Herald

How great

is the Royal Flying Doctor Service?! The Port Augusta Base staff have gone above and beyond recently to visit Blinman and other outback locations to make sure everyone who wanted to in outback South Australia had access to vaccinations for COVID-19. The staff were very efficient and professional. They came up not once but three times to deliver the vaccines into the arms of the many willing participants who were keen to do their bit for the safety of themselves, their families and the community. When rain interrupted their scheduled flight they drove up instead. I just want to say a big thank you to the RFDS Port Augusta for this opportunity to access the Pfizer vaccine without having to drive hundreds of kilometres. Thanks also to anyone in the Blinman community who helped in any way to organize and achieve these three visits.

Yours,

Sally  
Henery



## Moolooloo/Moorillah Sale

Morning all. The settlement of moolooloo and moorillah went through yesterday. Therefore the new owners are Reece and Tarina Warren. Alfie, Tarina's brother will be living at moolooloo and David will be staying on at moorillah. The phone numbers for moolooloo and moorillah will be staying the same. The Warren's have also taken over the email address ([moolooloo@moolooloo.com.au](mailto:moolooloo@moolooloo.com.au)) Our new email addresses are below.

They will also be running the tourism as per normal but bigger and better.

As the sale was WIWO to an extent any sheep with ear tag ( Moolooloo/ SA702184) are the property of the Warren's. They have applied for a new PIC number.

Lisa, Isabella, Millie, Henry and I although leaving many memories have started to settle into our new lives at Gowan Hills. We've left with the comfort that the Warren's are a wonderful family looking to make their own memories at Moolooloo.

We would like to thank everyone for their support and best wishes on our move which has made it easier especially with the trying times in the last few months.

Although we will no longer live in the area, Blinman will hold a special place in our hearts and when the opportunity arises look forward to catching up with you all.

*Kind regards,*

***Keith, Lisa, Isabella, Millie and Henry***

**\*Please note our NEW address and email addresses, please update your records as we will no longer have access to the old ones.**

**Gowan Hills (business) – [gowanhills@gowanhills.com.au](mailto:gowanhills@gowanhills.com.au)**

**Keith – [keith@gowanhills.com.au](mailto:keith@gowanhills.com.au)**

**Lisa – [lisa@gowanhills.com.au](mailto:lisa@gowanhills.com.au)**

**Address - Gowan Hills, 2071 Germein Gorge Road, Bangor SA 5481.**

**Postal - PMB 4, Wirabarra SA 5481**

# From Blinman Heralds Past...

## LAST YEAR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

- On the Cover: photo of Blinman Hall by David Bishop. Photo of Blinman by air by Tim Lindner
- BPA Chair: Brendan Reynolds
- Vale Helen Harvey Goodall nee Treloar who passed away 15.9.20
- Congratulations to Kristian and Gabbie Coulthard on the opening of Wadna Shop
- Photos from the Better Mind Health event held Blinman Hall Sep 3
- Blinman Mine update, 30 new signs and trail markers installed

## FIVE YEARS AGO NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

- On the Cover: Poster for Blinman Christmas Party to be held Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> at Town Park
- BPA Chair: Sheree Turner
- Vale Irene Pumba, passed away 3.11.2016, and Bronwyn Phillips, passed away 21.10.2016
- Report from Matt Westover on the cactus volunteer program and achievements for the year
- Congratulations to Michelle Reynolds who won the ARTN Young Tourism Professional of the Year
- Summer trading hours notices
- The book From the Outback to the Battlefront, by John Mannion, was launched at Blinman Hall
- Blinman Heritage Mine update: winner of Silver award at the SA Tourism Awards: before and after photos showing pepper tree removal work
- Restored honour rolls returned and reinstated to Blinman Hall
- Cement work done at playground by volunteers
- Group photo taken in front of Post Office in 1986, contributed by Lesley Slade
- Poster for New Year's Eve party at Blinman Hotel

## TEN YEARS AGO NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

- On the Cover: Poster for Blinman Christmas Party to be held Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>
- BPA Chair: Maureen Cutri
- St Mark's stained glass window is protected externally by a clear screen fitted by Michael and Kathy Harbison
- Article about Barb Fargher Snr's incredible golfing season. On one day in September 2011 Barb won the stroke event on nett 64, Nearest the Pin C Grade and Long Drive C Grade. Well done Barb!
- Report and photos of a successful Gymkhana. Vanessa Reschke is stepping down from the committee after ten years as Chair and 14 years on the Committee. She and Dudley and their sons are preparing to leave the Blinman district.
- Congratulations to Malcolm and Emma Chalmers on the birth of their second son Mason, a brother for Hayden
- Congratulations to Brendon & Jill Palin on the birth of their daughter Madison Anne on October 27th
- Carmel & Brendan Reynolds celebrated the Christenings of three of their grand-children on Nov 5 at Hawker church
- Reports and photos on Cook Outback and Art Exhibition
- Life Story (part 1) of Violet Evelyn Anesbury nee White
- Leo Sayer concert photos from the Fossils Rock event in Parachilna
- Jasmine Reschke and Neil Kimber were married Nov 12 in Parachilna Gorge with Reception at Blinman Hotel

## FIFTEEN YEARS AGO NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2006

- On the Cover: Art Exhibition opened by Nicky Downer was a great success
- BPA Chair: Tom McIntosh
- Congratulations to Vanessa & Dudley Reschke on the birth of their son Nicholas James, a brother for Alex
- Photos from Blinman Hotel Cook Out Back, Art Exhibition and Gymkhana

# SA Arid Lands Pastoral Field Day 2021

2-3 December 2021 Central Oval Port Augusta



## Innovation - Adaptation - Diversification

The first region-wide pastoral field day will feature two days of trade stalls, speakers and industry presentations and concludes with the School of the Air Wool Show.  
Registrations open 20 October. Bookings essential by 20 November.

[www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/get-involved/events](http://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/get-involved/events)



The Building Pastoral Sustainability Project is supported by the SA Arid Lands Landscape Board through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

## Blinman Christmas Party

Will be held on the 18<sup>h</sup> of December at the hall

Beginning around 7-7.30am

Everyone is welcome

Please bring a plate for a shared tea

Santa will make an appearance.



## Recent Baptism in St Mark's Church, Blinman

On Saturday September 4th John Patrick Henery was baptized at St Mark's Church, Blinman, by retired Reverend David Amery.

Patrick, born June 13th, is the son of John and Keziah Henery of Alpana Station and sister to Elsie, aged two years.

Patrick wore the Thiele family heirloom Christening gown that has been worn by many members of five generations of the family. Judith Hall, the custodian of the gown and great-grandmother to Patrick, brought the fragile antique gown with her from the Riverland for the occasion.

The chosen god-mother was able to attend the ceremony, as were several family members and friends, but the chosen god-father was in lock-down in Canberra and attended virtually courtesy of mobile phone technology.

After the ceremony and service a bbq lunch was enjoyed at the home of John and Keziah at Alpana Station.



# From the Reflections of John K Henery

## My School Days

One of the school teachers here was a bad-tempered bugger, and if we got cross with him, well, he'd chuck a book at us sometimes in the front row, or the second row, and it might hit one of us on the head. It might hit the wrong one, anyway. One day he got so cross with one of them, he picked up a whole desk and shook it. We had ink wells in those days on the desk and the ink went all over us. There was two kids on this desk too. I washed my clothes trying to get the ink out.



The last term in 1953, we got a new schoolteacher, for some reason Bob left our school and must have went to somewhere else. The new guy's name was Brian George. He was a single guy and probably about 35 from memory, but he had been teaching deaf and mute kids before he came to Blinman I think because he didn't want to talk to us. All he did was nod his head and make a few sign languages and, yeah, he was quite peculiar actually. No one learned anything in the last term we were there. Sometimes if he wanted to go and tend to some personal business or something in his house he'd give us reading to do. Imagine eight to ten kids in a classroom, all different grades, doing silent reading on their own or we'd be outside sitting under a tree doing some silent reading. Imagine how much reading went on; that's probably why I can't read that well today. Or else he'd declare it a sports afternoon or something and we'd be doing sport on our own, unattended by the teacher, so again it might have been a lot of fun, but it was more riot than fun, I think. Sometimes he'd forget to bring us in after lunch and he said, "That's a sports afternoon," and things like that, pretty laid back and probably why some of us didn't learn too much. Anyway under the control of this Brian George fellow that was a total riot for the last term of that year and Reggie Player was the oldest one of the school, or in the oldest grade anyway. Trevor Kipling, my cousin, he was about the same age as Reggie, but Trevor was in year 7 and Reggie was doing first year high, which is year 8 nowadays and by sort of a correspondence type course, but he was attending school and the teacher was trying to help him. Anyway old George wasn't much help, and the teacher put Reggie out on the porch on his own. Well there would be silence for about half hour or so and then all of a sudden the door would burst open and then he'd come back, Reggie would ask the teacher something and he'd show off in front of the class and Brian couldn't control him and, yeah, total bedlam. It didn't happen once or twice, it happened about 10 times a day, every day.

It was real funny one day, it was the same teacher of course, nearly lunchtime and we're all supposed to be working in the classroom, which I guess we were, and a hell of an explosion went off, just about the shook the windows. "Oh, what was that?" and Brian George, the teacher said, "It's the roadwork people up on the Gorge Road that are doing some blasting," which they were at the time too, but the blasting blasts weren't near

as big as this bang. Anyway after a while he went inside to see how his lunch was going and he had a tin of Irish stew or something in a tin and boiling in a pot of water, on a little kerosene stove, and during the period of boiling it ran out of water and of course it heated up and heated up until the tin blew up and blew the bottom out of the tin and the top out of the tin and some of it went up the chimney and some of it went all over the old kitchen of the schoolhouse. And he come back, and he said what had happened and then he said, "Well, I'll be a little while cleaning up here, just get on with it." Well, we didn't get on with our school work at all, we all followed him into the kitchen to have a look around to see what had happened. Hell, it was a mess. There was sausage hanging on the ceiling and gravy and stuff everywhere. A bit of a laugh.

There were other mischiefs. I was the youngest by three years, just tagging on behind, but Reggie and Trevor they were old enough to probably not be at school, they were sort of getting on towards being 14. We got a truck tyre or something and we rolled it down the hill towards the school. There was no flat part outside the back of the school then, it was just one hill graded down from Willocks house right to the porch door and at the back of the schoolhouse there was a little fence and the teacher had a bit of garden there, it wasn't too much, and then there was - it's still there actually - the sleep-out type room on the back of the kitchen. Well, we were rolling these tyres down the hill, I don't know what we thought we were going to do, but we rolled them down the hill and then one got away from us and went and careered out of control and went through the little garden fence and just about made a hole in the sleepout wall. The teacher was pretty cross about this and towards the end of the year, when we had finished most of the school work, we just had a few days to go, and our punishment was to fix the fence up. So that's when we dragged the tyre out, we got some little pine posts and we sawed them up and we dug holes and we put the pine posts in and we put the rails on and the bolts, and it took us about three days. So Trevor and Reggie and I were pretty happy about that, we didn't have to go to school, we were fixing this fence up and that was supposed to be our punishment.

Anyway, we used to constantly get up to mischief I suppose, us three. It was good that I went off to St. Peter's College, otherwise I'd never learn anything.



1953 Blinman sch

# NORTHERN FLINDERS CRICKET ASSOC. PROGRAM 21/22



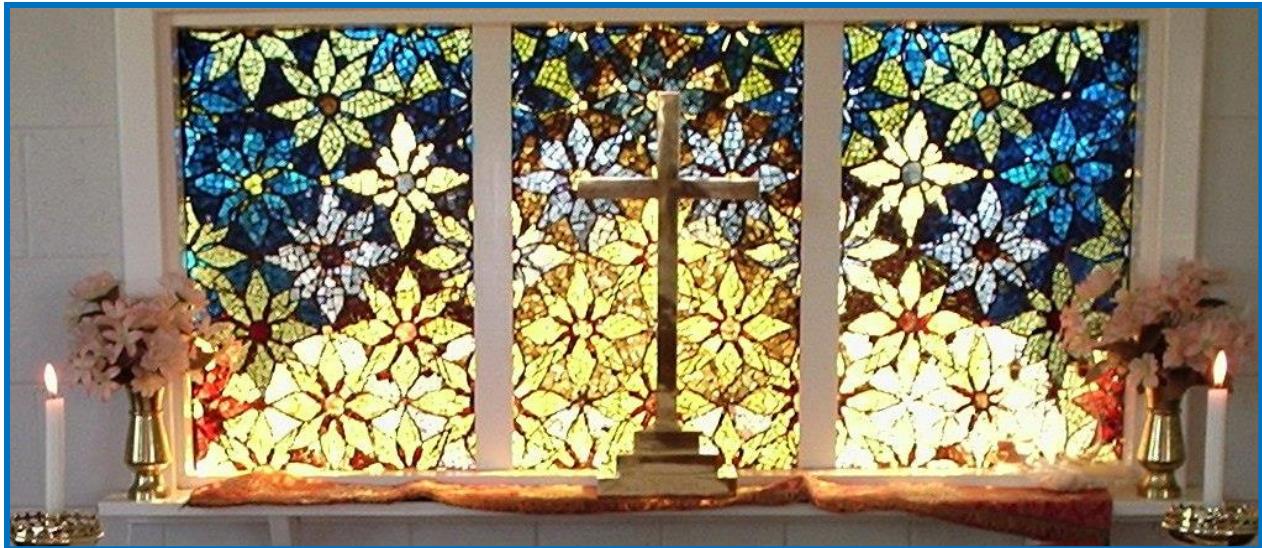
		@		
OCTOBER	30	Quom	V	Hawker
NOVEMBER	13	Hawker	V	Blinman
	27	Quom	V	Blinman
DECEMBER	11	Quom	V	Copley
JANUARY	15	Copley	V	Quorn
	22	Blinman	V	Hawker
	29	Copley Hawker	V V	Blinman Quorn
FEBRUARY	5	Hawker	V	Copley
	19	Blinman	V	Quorn
	26	Copley	V	Hawker
MARCH	5	Blinman	V	Copley
	19	GRAND FINAL		
	26	ALTERNATE GRAND FINAL (if Quorn playing)		



## Many Hands...

**Three hours of community service** with a weeding and tidying blitz at the St Mark's church yard and the Town Park garden beds were completed on Saturday morning, October 16th, by 14 Year 10 students and four staff from **St Ignatius College**, Adelaide. The students and staff had been staying at nearby Alpana Station shearers' quarters for a few days. The recent good rains had softened the ground and the weather on the day was mild and calm. The students and staff did a great job and the results in the short time they spent were impressive. It is true that many hands do make light (and fast) work. There were a few puns on the day about the Catholics tidying up after the Anglicans. One small plastic bag of rubbish, mainly chip and ice-cream wrappers, was collected and disposed at the town waste station. Visitors to Blinman will now find the park a very appealing place to be. The Blinman community is very thankful for the St Ignatius volunteers' time and effort.





## **CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICE**

**AT ST MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, BLINMAN**

**Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am**

**Carols and Communion**

**with the Very Reverend David Amery.**

**CELEBRATE THE REASON FOR THE SEASON!**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**Contact Sally if you would like more information.**

**Phone 8648 4626 or email [alpana2@bigpond.com](mailto:alpana2@bigpond.com)**



## MARGARET COAD — Life Story

Margaret 'Meg' Coad (nee McRae) was born on the 24th of April 1928, at the Hawker War Memorial Hospital, Hawker SA.

She was the only child of Ada Mary 'Sis' McRae and lived with her mother Ada and Grandmother at the McRae home in Hawker.

The McRae family was a large family long established in the area being one of the settling families in the town of Wonoka, Margaret's Great Grandmother being one of the first white women in the Aroona Valley SA mid north area.

Margaret attended Hawker Area School and was Dux of the School.

She started playing for dances when she was around 12 years old, playing piano with her mother Ada 'Sis' McRae who played violin, and along with drummer Jim Taylor, provided music for dances in the Hawker area playing for fundraiser balls and events during the 2nd World War and onwards.

Old Time Dances started at 8pm and went to 2am, with often just a ten minute break in the hour, and a supper break.

When the Coad's came to Hawker in 1942, James 'Jim' Coad joined Ada 'Sis' McRae and Margaret with his piano accordion, playing dance music around the area at halls for general dances, fundraisers and special events for the next thirty-five years.

As a young girl Margaret worked in the office of Gleode's Store in Hawker until she married James 'Jim' Herbert Coad on the 4th of October, 1945.

The Coad family came to Hawker in 1942 (formerly wheat farmers from Yaninee on the West Coast), employed in manganese mining on Martin's Well station, east of Hawker. Manganese was important for the manufacture of steel and dry batteries.

Later they began mining barytes as it was important for paint. White lead, previously imported from England, was not available due to the 1939-45 war.

Jim and Margaret built a hut in Moralana Drive on a mining lease they had there.

In 1948/49, Jim, his father James (Bob) and his brother Ian (Sykes), reopened the Blinman Copper mine. They worked on the 200ft level, with 400ft of water below them. Jim carted the first loads of ore to Parachilna since the mine had closed officially in 1918.

Incidentally, Jim carried Peter Coad (son) at the age of 8 months down to the 200ft level in the Blinman Copper mine shaft. Not many, if any, would have been down there so young!

They then moved to Martin's Well Station to live and work mining leases. Jim built a home on the lease which was known as 4 Corners Mine.

Jim and Margaret Coad lived at that home for nearly 70 years.

Everyone who passed by was always welcomed in for a cup of tea and a feed.

They only had Kerosene fridges and Tilly lamps, and later 32volt and 240volt generators for power.

Two-way radio for communication, Telegrams, and in later years Radphone (which was when radio Telephone calls could be made to the outside world via the Pt Augusta Flying

Doctor Radio service,) but you still had to say ‘over’ after you finished speaking, and it wasn’t until more recent years they were able to get Satellite Telephone.

In 1958, School Of The Air began in Pt Augusta, and with the use of a transceiver on loan from School Of The Air, Jim and Margaret Coad’s children were one of the first families enrolled.

Being well educated herself, Margaret was able to give good support to the children’s schooling.

Their children, Peter, Trevor, Jennifer, Philip, Malcolm, Virginia and Lynette, (all born at Hawker War Memorial Hospital) were all musical and joined in with Jim and Margaret Coad on stage with guitars, mandolin, violin and a second piano accordion.

The last official performances featured Jim, Margaret and family playing on stage at the Blinman Town Hall in 1968, and in 1971 at the Hawker Institute with all their children on stage, apart from Lynette (as she was too young.)

Jim and Margaret continued playing music privately at home and running their family mining business.

With the Hawker railway station nearing closure in 1969, the railways brought a special engine up with a string of trucks for them to load.

The last train from Hawker left on the 8th of January, 1970, loaded entirely with Jim Coad’s barytes.

Margaret was a letter writer, and she wrote to cousins, friends, and close relatives until she could no longer write or they had passed away.

She kept a list of birthdays for her own family and others and sent cards with a letter included to family and friends no matter where they were around Australia.

Letters, cards, and mementos over her lifetime from her extensive family and friends remained carefully saved in her possessions including letters and gifts from immediate Family and Grandchildren.

Family Christmas’s were always a special time with a cloth boiled pudding, and a roast meal, even on the hottest day. This was followed by a roast meal and another cloth boiled pudding on New Year’s Day.

Margaret loved her family, and there was always plenty of food prepared if members of the family were returning home from their travels.

She also made large cloth boiled puddings to send by post to family who could not come home for Christmas.

Due to the fact that many of her children were travelling with their own families, visits from Family and the Grandchildren etc., were a special highlight when they came to see her and Jim.

Margaret recorded fairy tales such as ‘Brer Rabbit’ and many more on cassette, which she mailed to the Grandchildren travelling and residing around Australia.

Jim and Margaret Coad recorded a CD of their music (Piano and Accordion) entitled “Old Favourites” in April 2001.

With Jim on Accordion and Margaret on Piano, the CD was all recorded on a simple cassette player in their home at 4 Corners, Martins Well, and the recorded tapes were then given to daughters Virginia and Lynette Coad who compiled and added drums and additional

instruments in their studio. It was then mixed and reproduced in CD format and many of these albums were sold over the years.

Margaret Coad had a tremendous memory and was a great historian.

From a young age she wrote full histories on the McArthur/McRae/Coad families and documented many historical events and occurrences in the Hawker and surrounding areas from the early 1900's to recent times.

She also wrote a diary of daily events in her own world and items of interest from the surrounding community for most of her life.

There has been much happiness over the years, but also sadness for both Jim and Margaret with the passing of daughter Jennifer and son Trevor.

Jennifer was a very multitalented person and a great violinist.

Trevor played violin, guitar, banjo and pedal-steel guitar and drums, and worked with his brothers Peter, Phil, and Mal, over the years and recorded three albums as Coad Bros, and then continued to tour solo with his wife Thea around Australia with their two children.

Whilst growing up in a mining background took priority through the early part of the children's life, music eventually became a fulltime career.

Mal Coad recorded multiple albums and toured Australia with his wife Carole and their five children until they settled in northern NSW. They have seven Grandchildren.

Phil and his wife Christine toured with their music fulltime and have three children and five Grandchildren and have currently recorded three albums and live in Bundaberg QLD.

Peter, Virginia, and Lynette continue to play music fulltime around Australia and Peter was awarded an OAM for his services to the Australian Music Industry.

All three are much awarded songwriters and multiple recording artists.

Virginia married fellow South Australian musician and recording artist Jim Hermel in 2004.

In later years both Jim and Margaret moved to live at Bundanoon NSW with their eldest son Peter, and daughters Lynette and Virginia and travelled on tour with them.

Both Jim and Margaret looked forward to catching up with other family members on the tours when possible or if family called in to Bundanoon to see them.

After Jim passed away in 2003, Margaret started to perform a piano spot on the Peter Coad & The Coad Sisters shows showcasing a selection of old-time dance favourites and became a well known and loved identity at Country Music Festivals and on the music circuit around Australia.

She continued to play on stage into her 80's.

A kind and loving mother, loved Grandmother, and Great Grandmother, Margaret Coad has given great joy and dedicated friendship to family and friends and to all who have known her.

An only child born Tuesday 24th of April 1928 at the Hawker War Memorial Hospital to Ada Mary 'Sis' McRae, Margaret Coad was a humble, honest, hardworking person, of solid moral, with a good sense of humour, who at 93 years of age has left a precious and valued legacy of fond memories, not only in conversation and communications, but through the music she shared with all she met throughout her life.

Margaret Coad passed away on the 1st of October 2021.

Her funeral was held at the Uniting Church, Hawker SA on the 26th of October 2021 at 11am

Margaret will be at rest next to her late husband Jim Coad at the Hawker Cemetery



## **Ken's Story      7-4-2009**

**Kenneth Hurtle Lord**

**Born; Broken Hill 19-03-1027**

**Parents; Hurtle and Ness lived at The Pinnacles (part of Thackaringa Station) 10 miles SW of Broken Hill.**

**At 5 years of age, I attended the local school with 8 or 9 students. Walked a mile or so – short cut (no road) I have never been good at spelling, perhaps I was too knocked by the time I got to School, Mr Atkinson was the teacher.**

**Later I stayed with my maternal grandmother in Broken Hill and attended school there. I used to go home to the station on weekends. On one occasion I walked 10 miles home. This was during the depression and times were tough in Broken Hill, I remember men carrying their swags looking for work, kids without boots and chilblains on their feet during winter fortunately I was shod !**

**There was a boy (a “fight promoter”) who organized a bout in the side lane a couple of times a week, If you did not fight you would be bashed up, my time came to meet a very timid opponent like myself- the above mentioned promoter used to steal my penny bus fare, resulting in my having to walk a couple of miles to my grandmother’s his name was Billy “B”**

**My Grandfather JV Lord died in 1935 and in 1936 my father resigned from the family pastoral partnership of JV Lord and sons and we moved to Adelaide. I attended Highgate primary school.**

**Father inspected many pastoral properties, the intention being to start out on his own. In 1938 we purchased Balcanoona Station from Roy Thomas. I enjoyed the new life in the Flinders Ranges and the contrast to the Broken Hill country. Mother (who had been a school teacher) taught me with the aid of correspondence school, perhaps I was more helpful to dad than I was to mother.**

**I had heard mentioned about going to Prince Alfred College. On Sunday mornings I used to stamp the letters and seal the mail bag with wax, I did notice a letter addressed to the headmaster of PAC, which I destroyed. Sometime later mother had not received a prospectus.**

**On a very hot day in February 1940 I was left at the preparatory school. I was always told to take a water bag wherever I went but this was the exception. I did not accept the new way of life, after being used to helping men at work and now being treated as a 12 year old boy. As a consequence of this attitude I did not do well academically. Most boarders thought “why worry, we’ll be going back to the farm/station” a different story today. My only claim at school was winning a religious studies prize and a cup for boxing (but really I was better at running than boxing) However in later life I realized the benefits gained from having attended PAC.**

**In 1940 or 41, Dad and my sister Mary became seriously ill with diphtheria and were flown to Broken Hill, this was the early days of the Flying Doctor in Broken Hill. They were in hospital for many weeks. Dad suffered serious consequences of this illness and Balcanoona Station was sold to the McLachlam family in 1943.**

**After leaving school in 1944, I was sent as a jackaroo to Roopena Station near Whyalla with the Andrew Nicolson family at Middleback as arranged by Wally Mengerson (of Goldsborough Mort & Co) I was very fortunate to go to a property that was well run and I gained valuable experience. There I also met my future wife, Gwenda Nicolson**

In December 1945, the knowledge that I had gained from the Nicolson family prompted dad to purchase Angorichna Station near Blinman. The owner (Bob Lee) was tragically killed by a fall from a windmill a week after we signed up. Dad's health recovered somewhat and he was able to guide and point me in the right direction. Here we lived and worked as a family, some of the aborigines from Balcanoona days came down to see and work for the old boss.

In about 1947 we purchased Motpena Station near Parachilna from the estate of Monty Haeusler. There were some wonderful seasons and wool prices then, but nothing can last forever. Some years at shearing time, after every run we had to clear sand from under the wood table with a wheelbarrow! The dogs eventually ate us out and in 1966 the property was stocked with cattle. A lot more watering points had been created and getting rid of sheep was the turning point for the regeneration of that country. I had hoped to add a couple of smaller properties nearby but that was not to be. Motpena was sold to Rodney Smith in 1982.

In 1949 my parents retired to Adelaide and in 1951 Gwenda resigned from the Adelaide Children's Hospital and we married. Heather and John came along. Gwenda easily adapted to life at Angorichna Station because she was accustomed to station life. In 1957 we purchased 3500 acres of mainly scrub land and a small house about 30 miles south of Lucindale in the lower South East of SA. We called the property Elad. This country was entirely new to me, but the Department of Agriculture were extremely helpful. Over a period of many years we developed this land, sometimes sending stock down from the north.

Having to manage three properties meant a lot of traveling and with Heather due to start school, Gwenda and I came to Adelaide in 1958 and left Ango in the hands of very capable manager Colin Edwards and his wife Margaret who stayed for eight years. Our new life was extremely busy, I was away a lot. Always lamb-tailing, shearing or crutching somewhere. Gwenda was kept busy adapting to Adelaide life with two children's schooling, some of the office work and putting motorbike parts etc on the buses. The property managers generally took their holidays during the school breaks and Gwenda, the children and I took over.

Angorichna Station was sold to the Fargher family in 1973. Gwenda and the children had become very attached to Ango in the Flinders Ranges. In my own mind, I had thought that this country and the industry had seen the best times. I did retain some land and erected a holiday cottage a lovely spot in spring and Autumn.

My son John was married in 1981 and took over management of Elad (in the South East) during 1992 we purchased a property called Atlantic near Penola (also in the South East) John and his wife Felicity lived there. In 1999 Elad was sold to a forestry company called Timbercorp they demolished everything. A bit sad, I was proud of the development work which I had done. All to be seen now is a forest of gum trees.

My good wife Gwenda died in 2001 after a long battle with Lymphoma, she is rest at Blinman in the land she loved. I am still living in this large house, alone. Daughter Heather is very good to me. Having relinquished most of my rural operations I have developed an interest in the share market. I am grateful for my grandsons for teaching me some computer skills for this.

After having done and achieved many things, my heart still lies in the outback and with the people who live there. Influenced by these sentiments I have donated a scholarship to Prince Alfred College for the benefit of boys who live in isolated areas of

**South Australia and western NSW.**

**Life has generally been kind to me and I do thank all those people who have helped along the way.**

