Hosts: Andrea Brow Dublin History Group Inc. https://www.dublinhistorygroup.com.au/

Peter Applebee Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group https://www.andfhg.org.au/

1. Meet outside front gate with welcome and give brief history of cemetery

2. Walk to Plaques

Jane Baker - full name Eliza Jane Baker   Peter

A young woman named Jane Baker was found dead after drowning in a water tank on the property of a man named John Henry Hubert, near the towns of Dublin and Two Wells. Because the situation looked suspicious, a formal inquest was held at a Dublin hotel.

Early that morning, two brothers, including a young man named Albert Barratt, noticed Jane sitting on Hubert's front doorstep. She seemed upset, muttered something they could not understand, and then said they "wouldn't see her anymore." Before they realized what she intended to do, she opened the lid of the water tank, knelt down, and dove in headfirst. Albert ran to alert Hubert and tried to pull her out with a stick, but could not reach her.

Hubert said that as soon as the boys told him someone had jumped into the tank, he hurried outside, grabbed a long stick, and tried to find her in the water. Eventually he attached a hook to the end of the stick and managed to bring her body to the surface. He called for help from nearby neighbours, who assisted in removing the body. Hubert admitted he made no attempt to resuscitate her.

The inquest explored Hubert's relationship with Jane. He explained that he had taken her in from the Destitute Asylum about three and a half years earlier as a general servant, paying her five shillings a week. He acknowledged that he had lived with her and that she had given birth to a child while working for him—though the child had since died. In the coroner's inquest he stated that he did not know who the father was. Recently he had married another woman, but Jane had briefly returned to the property afterward. He denied ever threatening her or trying to force her to leave.

After reviewing the testimony, the jury concluded that Jane Baker died from drowning but that there was not enough evidence to say exactly how or why she ended up in the tank—whether it was intentional or due to other circumstances. However, they added a strong statement condemning Hubert's behaviour, calling it disgraceful and unmanly, especially his failure to attempt to save or revive her.

But they were not privy to today's records access. The child's name was Elizabeth Jane Baker Hubert and she was reportedly buried in Two Wells Cemetery and on the Death Registration the father is listed as John Henry Hubert. Jane is buried somewhere in this Cemetery as a Destitute burial.

Kapunda Herald and Northern Intelligencer (SA : 1864 - 1878), Friday 6 October 1876, page 3 http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article108371675

Found Drowned.   Andrea

On a cold July morning, the sea gave up a grim secret on the sands of Dublin Beach. There, among the mangroves at the water's edge, lay the remains of a man no one could name. Time and tide had stripped him of identity: his body was headless, badly decomposed, and almost entirely bare, save for a pair of boots and a medical truss he had worn in life. One arm was twisted tightly around a mangrove branch, as though in his final moments he had fought desperately against the pull of the water.

Those who examined the remains believed the man had been dead for six weeks or more. He was a tall, powerfully built figure, well over six feet in height, and his body bore the mark of an old injury — a compound fracture to the right leg that had healed unevenly, leaving it shorter than the other. One leg was nearly torn away, held only by sinew, mute evidence of the sea's relentless work.

Word was sent to the police at Two Wells, and Trooper Thomas came to the beach to take charge of the remains. He reported the circumstances to the local magistrate, who judged that an inquest would serve no useful purpose. With no name, no witnesses, and little hope of discovery, the man was granted a quiet burial here on the evening of 9 July. Yet the decision not to hold an inquest stirred unease among the local community. A headless body washed ashore was not an everyday occurrence, and some felt that the dead man deserved at least the formal questioning of how he came to such an end.

The story did not end there. From Moonta came word of a woman named Mrs Davis, whose husband had left home months earlier in search of work at Port Pirie and had never returned. Around the time the unknown man was thought to have met his death, she had been haunted by a vivid dream in which she saw her husband attacked and heard his desperate cries for mercy. When she later read the newspaper account of the body found on Dublin Beach, her heart sank. The description — the height, the build, the injury to the leg — matched her husband in every particular.

Too ill to travel, Mrs Davis asked her neighbours to contact the police on her behalf, hoping that further enquiries might confirm what she both feared and felt in her bones. Whether the man from the beach was indeed her missing husband was never resolved, but the unanswered questions lingered. The unknown drowned man of Dublin Beach was laid to rest without a name, leaving behind only speculation, sorrow, and the uneasy sense that the sea had taken more than it ever returned.

3. Thompson Peter

William Thompson was born in 1844 in New Plymouth, New Zealand, but by the following year, he had crossed the seas with his parents William Snr. and Ann to South Australia, where a new life awaited. From an early age, William developed a strong connection to the land, learning the ways of farming on the family property at Yorke Peninsula. When his parents returned to Port Adelaide, he stayed behind, gaining further experience at the "Gum Flat" sheep station near Minlaton.

In 1860, William married Margaret Cummings, a resilient woman whose early years had been marked by loss—her infant brother died at sea, and both her parents passed away shortly after arriving in South Australia, leaving her and her siblings orphaned. William and Margaret began their family at Black Point, where three children were born, before moving to Port Adelaide. There, William operated a cutter in coastal trade, and the family welcomed four more children, though tragedy struck when three—Mark, Albert, and Ann—succumbed to typhoid fever.

In 1876, the family moved to Dublin, South Australia, where William farmed extensively, managing up to 1,539 acres and raising sheep. He played an active role in the community, helping to establish the Dublin Primitive Methodist Church, and later partnered in land ventures with his eldest son, Oscar. Two more daughters completed the family. After nearly forty years of farming, William and Margaret retired to Prospect, passing away in 1919 and 1924 respectively, and were laid to rest in Cheltenham Cemetery.

From this foundation of resilience and dedication to the land, William and Margaret's children forged their own paths.

Henry Thompson, born in June 1873 at Glanville, was the sixth child. His family moved to a farm west of Dublin while he was still a boy, and he attended the little Dublin Public School, earning Certificates of Merit in 1883 and 1884. Leaving school, Henry naturally joined his father and brother in farming, dedicating his life to the land even after his parents relocated to Prospect in 1913.

During these years, Henry employed several housekeepers, including Elizabeth Emily Rachel Bubner, known as Rachel. Born at Dublin in 1886, Rachel had faced hardship early in life: her father died in a workplace accident when she was fifteen, and her first husband, Frederick Gustave Bubner, succumbed to tuberculosis in 1914, leaving her widowed with a young son, Laurence. Over time, Henry and Rachel's friendship blossomed into love, and they married in 1924 at the Maughan Methodist Church Manse. Together, they built a steady, quiet life on the farm, raising two daughters, Hazel in 1925 and Alys in 1930. Hazel was a long-term supporter of the Dublin History Group till her passing some years ago. Henry continued farming into the late 1940s, enjoying horses and outdoor pursuits, while Rachel nurtured a celebrated garden. Henry passed away in July 1952, and Rachel eventually moved to Sefton Park, later Parkside, and finally the Julia Farr Centre, passing away in December 1972. Both rest here, near the land that shaped their lives.

Charles George Thompson, born in September 1875 at Glanville, was the seventh

child. Following in his father's footsteps, Charles joined the family in farming and married Esther Richardson in 1898 at the Lower Light Methodist Church. Together, they raised nine children. Charles acquired his own property at Dublin in 1908, purchasing Section 329, and later took over Section 317 after his father's death. Despite the challenges of drought in 1916 and 1923, he continued to farm until selling Section 329 to his son Sydney in 1955. Charles died in June 1958 at the age of 82, and Esther passed away three years later in 1961. With Sydney's death in 1967, the Thompson family's direct ownership of the land in Dublin came to an end.

From William and Margaret's pioneering spirit to the steadfast lives of Henry and Charles, the Thompson family's story is one of resilience, devotion to the land, and the enduring bonds of family—etched forever in the fields and cemeteries of South Australia.

An Interesting Footnote:

William Thompson Sr., as he was known in later life, claimed to have been born in Sweden in 1816. In 1839, he arrived in South Australia as a sailor aboard the freighter *Mary Ridgeway*, having travelled from England. Family stories suggest that he may have visited the colony even before this voyage. Eventually, he moved across the Tasman Sea to New Zealand, where he continued his life under the name William Thompson.

It was only through modern family research, including DNA analysis, that the true story of his origins came to light. He was, in fact, born **Ola Persson** in Sweden, revealing a hidden chapter of identity and migration that had remained obscured for generations. This discovery not only corrected the historical record but also connected his descendants to their authentic Swedish roots, bridging centuries of history with the clarity of modern science.

As a Second Great Grandson I have still have remnants of this Swedish DNA in my genetic tapestry today.

4. Charles Webb   Andrea

Charles Webb and the Origins of Webb Beach

Charles Webb was born on Friday, 2 October 1840, at Drayton, Somerset, England, the son of James Webb and Mary Trump. He was baptised at Drayton on 8 November 1840. Charles spent his early life in rural Somerset before beginning the journey that would ultimately link his family name permanently with the Port Parham district of South Australia.

At the age of 22, Charles married Eliza Tilley on Monday, 27 October 1862, at Drayton, Somerset. Eliza had been born on Sunday, 11 February 1838, at Kingsbury Episcopi, Somerset, the daughter of James Tilley and Ann Doble, and was baptised there on the day of her birth. Charles and Eliza would go on to have eight children together.

On 5 June 1865, Charles and Eliza emigrated to South Australia aboard the *Coldstream*. Travelling with them were their eldest son George and infant daughter Elizabeth, along with Charles's siblings John (and his wife Charlotte) and Jane. All were sponsored by Robert Martin. This migration marked the beginning of the Webb family's long association with the Port Parham and Dublin districts.

Charles Webb lived out his life in South Australia and died at Dublin on 5 January 1928, aged 87. He was laid to rest at the Dublin cemetery. Eliza predeceased him, passing away at Dublin on 5 August 1905 at the age of 67.

One of their sons, **Albert John Webb**, was born on Wednesday, 26 March 1879, at Dublin, South Australia. Albert became a significant figure in the Port Parham area through his agricultural and industrial enterprise. On Thursday, 5 March 1903, at the age of 23, he married **Emilie Florence May Easton** at Bridgwater. Emilie had been born at Windsor on Wednesday, 24 May 1882. Together they raised nine children. Emilie lived to the age of 92, dying on 9 October 1974, while Albert died on 26 April 1960 aged 81.

Albert John Webb established and operated **Webb's Carbonate of Lime**, producing shell grit and lime at Port Parham. Contemporary reports record that by the early twentieth century he had crushed over 1,000 tons of lime, manufacturing more than 340 tons in a five-month period alone. He employed up to seven men and installed larger machinery to meet increasing demand. At the same time, Port Parham was developing as a popular seaside resort, with dozens of families holidaying or residing there during summer months.

The Webb family's long association with the area was formally recognised in 1972. Following a request from the District Council of Mallala, the Lands Department subdivided Crown land approximately one mile south of Port Parham into holiday home sites. The Council requested the area be named **Webb Beach**, noting that the Webb name had been associated with Port Parham for many years and that a descendant of the original family was still living locally.

Although the name Webb Beach was adopted locally in 1972, it was not officially gazetted until 5 June 1997. Today, Webb Beach stands as a lasting reminder of the Webb family's contribution to the Port Parham district, particularly that of Albert John Webb, whose industry and enterprise helped shape the local economy for decades.

5. Alfred Edward Griffiths   Peter

Alfred Edward Griffiths was born in 1841 in England and came of age during a period of profound social and economic change. In 1865, newly married and seeking opportunity, he emigrated to South Australia with his wife Sarah Smith and their infant son William. The family sailed from Plymouth, Devon, aboard the *Lincoln* on 9 September 1865, arriving at Port Adelaide on 3 December after nearly three months at sea.

Like many early settlers, Alfred quickly became embedded in the agricultural life of the Adelaide Plains. Over the following decades he acquired land and established farms across Stockport, Inkerman, Wild Horse Plains, and Dublin—districts that were still forming their identity as wheat-growing settlements. His life reflects the classic settler trajectory: land acquisition through persistence, the demands of a large family, personal loss, and deep involvement in local affairs.

Alfred's first marriage to Sarah Smith (born 1846, England) produced nine children. Their family life, though outwardly productive, was marked by hardship and early death. Their eldest son William, born shortly before emigration, died at Stockport in 1867 aged just two. Another son, George Albert, died in 1882 aged four and is buried here.

Sarah herself died young, aged 42, on 24 July 1888 at Inkerman after what contemporary newspapers described as a "very short and painful illness." She left Alfred a widower with seven surviving children, many still dependent.

The children of Alfred and Sarah were:

- **William Griffiths**

- **Hannah Matilda Griffiths** who lived to 89 and whose youth was marked by open conflict with her father; in 1885 Alfred placed a public newspaper notice warning ministers not to marry her before age 21 and disclaiming liability for her debts—an unusually explicit assertion of paternal authority.

- **James Alfred Griffiths** later father of Clive Harold Griffiths, whose 1924 insolvency proceedings would expose deep rifts within the extended family.

- **John Thomas Griffiths**

- **William Charles Griffiths** who became a wheat buyer at Port Lorne.

- **George Albert Griffiths (I)**

- **David Walter Griffiths** later centrally involved in a highly publicised legal dispute with his nephew Clive.

- **George Albert Griffiths (II)**

- **Sarah Eunice Marcella Griffiths**

In 1892, four years after Sarah's death, Alfred remarried. His second wife, **Elizabeth Smith** (born 1847, daughter of John Smith), married him at Mitcham on 11 October 1892. Elizabeth died on 12 December 1913 at Wild Horse Plains aged 66 and is buried here also.

Alfred Griffiths emerges from the records as a firm, assertive, and practical man—deeply involved in both property and family affairs, and unafraid of public action when he felt it necessary.

Court records show Alfred and Sarah involved in housing disputes as early as 1866, only months after arrival, highlighting the instability and tension that characterised

early colonial settlement. In 1871, Sarah gave evidence at a coroner's inquest into the drowning of George Hardy in the River Gilbert, illustrating the close-knit and interdependent nature of district life.

Following Sarah's death, Alfred placed an advertisement for a housekeeper in 1891, a reflection of the challenges of running a household and farms while bringing up a large family. It remains uncertain whether Elizabeth Smith, who later became his second wife, was the applicant—but if so, it would not have been an isolated occurrence in the area.

 Alfred and his sons were part of the agricultural expansion of the Dublin Council district. The nearby port of **Port Lorne** played a key role in exporting grain and wool by ketch to Adelaide. William Charles Griffiths' work there as a wheat buyer reflects the family's integration into regional trade networks. As rail and road transport improved, Port Lorne declined and ultimately closed by the 1940s and is now part of the Port Wakefield Proof Range, marking the end of a phase of settlement life Alfred had helped to build.

6. **Lillian Edith Prime and Marion Emma Prime**   **Andrea**

Sisters of the Dublin District

To understand the lives of Lillian Edith Prime and Marion Emma Prime, it is necessary to look beyond their own years and consider the generations that shaped them. The sisters were heirs to a family tradition of migration, settlement, hard work, and community involvement that stretched from rural England to colonial South Australia.

Family Foundations: The Prime and Flavel Lines

Lillian and Marion were daughters of Joel Prime and Anna Maria Wills, members of a pioneering South Australian farming family. Joel Prime was born on 11 December 1842 at Thriplow, Cambridgeshire, England, the son of Nathan Prime and Sarah Flavel. In 1849, when Joel was still a child, Nathan Prime emigrated with his family to South Australia aboard the ship *Susannah*, arriving at Port Adelaide during the colony's early decades. The family settled in the Brompton and Hindmarsh districts, where Nathan worked and raised his children until his death in 1871.

Joel grew up in this environment of settlement and labour and later established himself as a farmer in the districts north of Adelaide. He became a long-term resident of Dublin, where he was well known and respected. Joel lived to the age of 97, dying in 1940, having witnessed nearly a century of change from early colonial life to the modern era.

Joel married Anna Maria Wills on 21 May 1863 at Brompton. Anna Maria had been born in Devon, England, on 12 December 1840, the daughter of Thomas Wills and Sarah Ann Nicks, and was baptised at Ide shortly after her birth. She, too, was part of the great movement of British families to South Australia, bringing with her the values of industry, faith, and family responsibility. Anna Maria died at Dublin in 1920, aged 79.

The Prime children inherited a strong sense of family continuity, faith, and perseverance—qualities clearly reflected in the lives of Lillian and Marion.

Lillian Edith Prime

Lillian Edith Prime was born on 5 March 1872 at Brompton, South Australia, and grew up in a large farming household shaped by the experiences of migration and settlement. From an early age she was accustomed to responsibility, hard work, and the rhythms of rural life. Unlike many women of her generation, Lillian remained unmarried and devoted much of her adult life to farming, managing stock and property in her own right.

Her independence and practical ability are most clearly illustrated by the substantial auction held when she decided to relinquish farming. Conducted by the South Australian Farmers' Co-operative Union at Dublin, the sale listed large numbers of sheep, horses, cattle, poultry, and extensive quantities of hay and grain, along with a remarkable array of implements, machinery, and tools. The breadth of the sale reflects not a marginal holding, but a well-established and efficiently run mixed farming operation, indicating Lillian's competence and standing as a farmer in a community where such work was still overwhelmingly male-dominated.

Lillian was also closely connected to the social and religious life of Dublin. As a member of the Methodist congregation, she supported church activities and charitable causes, often alongside her siblings. Her later years were marked by declining health, borne with quiet endurance. She died on 16 February 1948 in her seventy-sixth year, described in family notices as a "patient sufferer at rest." Her funeral service was held at the Dublin Methodist Church, followed by burial here, where generations of the Prime family were laid to rest.

Marion Emma Prime

Marion Emma Prime, known throughout her life as Emma, was born on 18 September 1875 near Dublin at Lower Light. Raised within the same family tradition of faith, music, and service, she displayed from an early age a gift for music and a willingness to participate in community life—qualities that would define her adult years. Like her sister Lillian, Emma never married, instead dedicating herself to family, church, and township.

Emma became especially well known through her involvement with the Methodist Church and local public events. Newspaper reports regularly record her role as choir leader and organist at anniversary services of the Methodist Sunday School, positions that required both musical skill and leadership. Under her guidance, special singing formed an important part of church celebrations, enhancing their spiritual and social significance.

Beyond the church, Emma took part in concerts, benefit performances, and charitable entertainments held in the Dublin Institute and surrounding towns. These events, often

organised to raise funds for causes such as fairs in aid of the blind, were central to rural social life. Emma's participation placed her among a circle of local women whose cultural contributions helped bind the community together during times when professional entertainment was rare.

Emma remained in Dublin throughout her life, maintaining strong ties to family and neighbours. She died on 25 October 1940 at the age of 65. Her funeral service was held at the Dublin Methodist Church, a fitting farewell for someone so closely associated with its music and worship, before burial here.

Shared Legacy Across Generations

Together, Lillian Edith Prime and Marion Emma Prime represent the continuation of values carried from rural England to colonial South Australia by their grandparents and parents. Shaped by migration, farming, faith, and community service, their lives reflect the quiet strength of women whose contributions sustained both family and township. Though neither married nor left descendants, their legacy endures in the historical memory of Dublin, standing as part of a wider Prime family story that spans continents and generations.

7. Jonathan and Sophia Porter   Peter

Jonathan Porter was born on 22 June 1847 at Bowden, South Australia, the son of Barzillai Porter and Sophia Flavell, English migrants who had arrived in the colony in 1845 aboard the *Isabella Watson*. His early years were marked by hardship. His father, a storekeeper and servant, later abandoned the family to seek his fortune on the Victorian goldfields and never returned, dying at Timor, Victoria, in 1894. Jonathan's mother, Sophia, remained in South Australia and raised her children under difficult circumstances until her death at Oodlawirra in 1910.

As a boy Jonathan moved with his family to Gawler, and at just fourteen years of age he began an apprenticeship as a builder. From an early age he showed skill, diligence, and determination—qualities that would define his long working life. While still in his teens he built the first home at Lower Light, an impressive achievement that marked the beginning of a respected career.

Jonathan eventually settled at Dublin, where for sixty-six years he combined farming with his trade as a builder. He became widely known for the quality and integrity of his workmanship and was sought after by those who wanted buildings that would endure. Among his most notable works was the Shannon Church, erected more than sixty years before his death, along with many homes throughout the district. He once remarked that he did not want it said "up yonder" that he had done shoddy work on earth—a sentiment that reflected both his faith and his strong sense of responsibility.

Converted at an early age, Jonathan devoted himself wholeheartedly to the spiritual and social life of the community. He was instrumental in establishing a day school at Dublin and was the driving force behind the formation of the town's first Sunday school, which initially met in the Council Chamber. He served as superintendent for twenty-

five years and continued to assist until only a fortnight before his death. For many years he also acted as a local preacher, remembered for messages marked by sincerity, deep conviction, and earnest faith.

Jonathan Porter died on 27 February 1935, just short of his eighty-eighth birthday. During his final illness he remained peaceful and resolute, joining family and friends in singing his favourite hymns. He was survived by his devoted wife, who had been blind for nearly thirty years, and by seven members of his family. His passing marked the loss of one of Dublin's most respected citizens, whose life of craftsmanship, service, and faith left a lasting legacy.

In recognition of his contribution to the church and community, a special service was later held at the Dublin Methodist Church for the unveiling of his portrait. The service was conducted by Mr J. T. F. Johnson, an old resident and former day school teacher of Dublin, and the portrait was unveiled by Jonathan's eldest son, Mr J. Porter, with the choir singing two anthems.

Jonathan's wife, Elizabeth Jane Porter, died some years later at her home in Dublin at the age of 80. She had been born at Hurtle Vale, the only daughter of John Carslake of Shannon, and married Jonathan in 1874. For the whole of her married life—more than half a century—she lived at Dublin. She played an important role in the early life of the Methodist Church and was one of four women who laid its foundation stone. In later years she suffered from ill health and blindness.

8. Mary Sunman   Andrea

Mary Ann Cecilia Hudson was born on **25 August 1855**, the daughter of **William Hudson of Mount Gambier**. She grew into a capable and well-educated young woman and chose teaching as her profession, a calling that would define her life and leave a lasting mark on several South Australian communities.

In **July 1877**, Mary Ann married **John Francis Ryan** at **St Patrick's Church, Adelaide**. John was the son of **Michael Ryan and Elizabeth Eliza Kelly**, publicans of the **Red Lion Hotel**. Their happiness was brief. Only five months after the wedding, John Francis died of **consumption** on **5 December 1877**, aged just **23**, at the German Arms Hotel in Hahndorf, where he had only recently taken over as publican. He was buried at **Mount Barker Catholic Cemetery**, leaving Mary Ann a widow at only twenty-two.

Two years later, on **30 August 1879**, Mary Ann married **William Arthur Sunman** at **Port Elliot**. William, born at **Currency Creek on 23 July 1856**, was the fourth son of **Robert Richard Chambers Sunman** and **Martha Ann Blyth**. He was a hardworking man, first as a dairyman—his dairy being regarded as one of the best in the district— and later as **vermin inspector for the Kondoparinga district**, giving evidence on the spread of rabbits alongside local farmers.

Ill health forced William to give up dairying in **1902**, and he died at **Dublin, South Australia**, on **8 August 1904**, aged **48**. Once again, Mary Ann was left widowed.

Throughout these years, Mary Ann continued her work as a **schoolteacher**, teaching at **Currency Creek, Ashbourne, and Hornsdale**, before taking up her final post at **Dublin in 1902**, where she lived in the schoolhouse. From 1906 to her death, she was the Secretary for the Dublin Institute. She was deeply respected by parents and pupils alike, and her letters reveal a woman committed not only to education but also to charity and moral instruction, encouraging her scholars to practise generosity and self-denial.

Mary Ann Cecilia Sunman died on **5 December 1908**, at **Wakefield Street Hospital, Adelaide**, aged **53**. Her funeral left the **schoolhouse at Dublin** for the local cemetery, marking the end of a life defined by service, resilience, and quiet influence. She is remembered as a devoted teacher and a woman who gave much of herself to the communities she served.

9. **Red Dog**   **Andrea**

Red Dog filming

The Movement "If everyone could please move back against the line of trees. [Show reference photo]. By standing right there, in 2011 you would be amongst the friends of Red Dog during the filming of parts of the movie."

The Story "Most of you likely know the story—inspired by the book which was, in turn, based on the true folklore of a nomadic Red Kelpie. He wasn't just a dog; he was a wanderer who won the hearts of hundreds of residents across the Western Australian outback."

The Location "While we are standing here today, this site is just one of many in our area that has caught the eye of filmmakers. From major movies to television series and advertisements, our landscape has a rich cinematic history. If you're curious about what else has been filmed here, we have more information back at the Institute.

Other Famous Productions in the Region

The Adelaide Plains and the town of Dublin are popular with location scouts because they can "double" for many different places.

•   Production   Type   Notable Locations in SA

•   Robbery under arms (1957)   Movie Filmed extensively in the Buckland Park and Flinders Ranges

•   The Tourist (2022)   TV Series   Filmed extensively in the Adelaide Plains and Flinders Ranges.

•   Mortal Kombat (2021)   Movie Used various SA locations for its otherworldly landscapes.

- The Royal Hotel (2023)   Movie Filmed in nearby regional areas, capturing the grit of the outback.

- Pine Gap (2018)   TV Series   Utilized the open plains and local infrastructure.

- Stateless (2020)   TV Series   Filmed across the state, featuring the vast, arid horizons.

Why Film in Dublin?

- **The "Double" Effect:** Dublin's wide-open spaces, historic cemetery, and salt bush scrub allow it to stand in for almost any desert or rural town in Australia.

- **The Light:** Filmmakers love the "Golden Hour" on the Adelaide Plains, where the flat horizon creates long, dramatic shadows.

- **Heritage:** The Dublin Institute and the Hundred of Dublin (named after the birthplace of Governor Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell) offer a unique historical backdrop that looks authentic on camera.

10. John (Jack) Clonan   Peter

The quiet communities of Windsor and the surrounding districts were deeply shaken by the tragic news that Mr J. Clonan, of Dublin, had lost his life in a fatal accident at Virginia on Wednesday evening. The suddenness of the event cast a pall over the district, for Mr Clonan was a man well known and widely respected throughout the area.

For some sixteen years he had earned his living as a general carrier and greengrocer, travelling the local roads and supplying townspeople and farmers alike. His work brought him into daily contact with many, and his familiar presence made his loss all the more keenly felt. It was while returning home from Adelaide that the accident occurred, bringing his working life to an abrupt and tragic end.

The circumstances of the accident were distressing. Mr Clonan was run over by his own lorry, the wheels passing over his head and body. Death was believed to have been instantaneous, sparing him prolonged suffering but leaving those who knew him stunned by the violence of the incident.

His remains were laid to rest here. The funeral was the largest ever witnessed here, a silent testament to the esteem in which he was held and the sorrow felt across the district. Friends, neighbours, and fellow workers gathered in great numbers to pay their final respects.

Much sympathy was extended to Mr Clonan's widow and his three daughters, who were left to mourn the sudden loss of a husband and father. The tragedy marked the community deeply, and for many years afterward the memory of his untimely death lingered as a reminder of how swiftly ordinary life could be overturned.

11. Richard Bigham   Andrea

The Life and Family of Richard Bigham (1838–1902)

Richard Bigham was born in 1838 at Maybole, in Ayrshire, Scotland, the only known son of Richard Bigham, born in Ireland in 1803, and his wife Helen Wilson, also Irish-born. Although his parents later died in Scotland, Richard's early life appears to have been shaped by movement between Ireland and Scotland, a pattern not uncommon among working families in the early nineteenth century.

In 1862, at about twenty-four years of age, Richard left Britain in search of opportunity in the Australian colonies. He departed England on 11 September 1862 aboard the ship *Castle Eden*, arriving at Port Adelaide on 26 December 1862. He travelled with his younger sister Sarah. Ship records provide a rare glimpse into their personalities, recording Richard's behaviour during the voyage as "insubordinate and insolent," while Sarah's conduct was described as "general conduct not good." Despite this unpromising assessment, Richard would go on to establish himself as a long-term settler in South Australia, later being described as a colonist of forty years.

Richard settled at Dublin, north of Adelaide, where he became a farmer. On 26 July 1877, at the age of thirty-nine, he married Betsy (often recorded as Bessie) Parsons at Kensington Park, South Australia. The ceremony took place at the residence of J. A. Holden, Esq., and was conducted by the Reverend H. J. Lambert. Betsy was twenty-nine years old at the time of her marriage.

Betsy Parsons had been born on 1 May 1848 at Meare in Somerset, England, the daughter of Jacob Parsons and Sarah Witcombe. She was baptised later that same month. In 1864, as a young woman of fifteen, she emigrated to South Australia aboard the *Northumberland*, arriving at Port Adelaide on 10 January, accompanied by her older sister Jane. While Betsy's life in the colony appears to have been stable, her sister Jane was less fortunate and spent time in the Destitute Asylum, reflecting the vulnerability faced by many single migrant women.

Richard and Betsy established their home at Sunham Farm, Dublin. Their family was small but close. Their first child, John Alexander Bigham, was born on 22 June 1884, his birth announced in the local press as both mother and child doing well. Two years later, on 4 December 1886, their daughter Ellen Elizabeth Bigham was born, also at Sunham Farm.

Tragedy struck the family in November 1891 when Betsy died suddenly at the age of forty-three. Contemporary newspaper reports state that she had walked hurriedly across scrubland to visit a neighbour, complained of pain in her heart, and shortly

afterwards collapsed and died. Her sudden death left Richard a widower with two young children. Betsy was buried here on 21 November 1891, mourned not only by her immediate family but also by her sister, Mrs James Fergusson of Warracknabeal.

Some years later, Richard remarried. His second wife was Emily Hall, formerly Baker, a woman from one of South Australia's early settler families. Emily had been born in Gillingham, Dorset, in 1833, the daughter of Edward Hall and Rachel Hall, and baptised at St Mary's Church in March of that year. She arrived in South Australia as a child in 1848 aboard the *Westminster*, travelling with her parents and eight siblings. The Hall family were among the early agricultural settlers of the colony, living at Brighton, Golden Grove, and later Peachy Belt.

Emily became stepmother to John and Ellen and shared Richard's life at Dublin until his death. She was also deeply devoted to her own parents, particularly her mother Rachel Hall, who lived with Emily and Richard during her final years. Rachel Hall died at Dublin on 31 December 1900 at the remarkable age of ninety-eight. Her death notice recorded her as the matriarch of an extensive colonial family, leaving six sons, two daughters, and several generations of descendants. Emily later placed a heartfelt *In Memoriam* notice in remembrance of her mother.

Richard Bigham died at Dublin on 5 February 1902, aged sixty-four. His death notice described him as the beloved husband of Emily Bigham and noted that he left behind one son and one daughter to mourn his loss. He was remembered as a colonist of forty years, a man who had arrived in the colony as a young immigrant and spent the rest of his life contributing to its rural communities.

Emily survived Richard by several years. She remained in Dublin and died there on 17 February 1906 at the age of seventy-three. Although her burial place is uncertain, it is believed she was laid to rest with other members of her family at the Zoar Bible Christian Cemetery at Penfield, in an unmarked grave. Emily was the two-times great-grandmother of some people present here today, their Grandmother Elizabeth Emily Rachel Thompson whom we visited earlier and through whom much of this family history has been preserved.

Richard's children both grew to adulthood and remained closely connected to the Dublin district. His son, John Alexander Bigham, married Ethel May Dunlop in 1908. Ethel, born at Leasingham in 1883, became a prominent figure in the community, particularly during the Second World War, when she served as president of the Dublin branch of the Fighting Forces Comforts Fund, helping to raise significant sums for servicemen. John died in 1948 and was buried at Dublin, alongside his wife, who died in 1966.

Richard's daughter, Ellen Elizabeth Bigham, married Frank Houston in 1909. Frank, born at Windsor in 1878, later served in the military during the First World War. Ellen lived until 1963 and was cremated at Centennial Park. Newspaper reports from the early twentieth century show Ellen remaining active within the local community, appearing in social and incidental news items that reflect everyday life in rural South Australia.

From his controversial conduct aboard an immigrant ship to his long life as a South Australian farmer, Richard Bigham's story reflects the broader experience of nineteenth-century settlers: migration, hardship, family loss, remarriage, and eventual establishment within a close-knit rural community. Through his children and stepfamily, his legacy continued well into the twentieth century, firmly rooted in the history of Dublin and the surrounding districts.

12. William Simmons   Peter

William Simmons was born on Sunday, 7 November 1847, at Encounter Bay in South Australia, at a time when the colony was still young and shaped by the hopes of its immigrant families. He was the son of Henry Simmons, a Welshman, and Jessie Lewis, who had been born in Dumfries, Scotland. Both of William's parents had arrived in South Australia aboard the *Charles Kerr* in June 1840, bringing with them traditions from Britain and a determination to build new lives in the southern colonies.

William's childhood was marked by hardship and responsibility. His father, Henry Simmons, born in 1815 and baptised in Llandogo, Monmouthshire, died in 1860 at the Snowy Mountains diggings in Victoria when William was only twelve years old. Left widowed, Jessie Lewis carried on with remarkable strength. She would later remarry, but her first family, including William, was shaped by years of resilience and adaptation in colonial South Australia.

As William grew into adulthood, he settled in the Windsor and Dublin district, where he became known as a skilled blacksmith. In a farming community dependent on horses, wagons, and tools, his trade made him indispensable. His forge was not merely a place of work but a meeting point for locals, and through this daily contact William became closely connected to the life of the district.

On Thursday, 21 January 1875, William married Martha Hardy at Port Wakefield. Martha had been born around 1846 at Clarendon, the daughter of Joseph Hardy and Susannah Hardy. She brought steadiness and longevity to the family, qualities that would define her long life. Together, William and Martha established a home at Windsor and raised their children within the rhythms of rural South Australian life.

George Howard Simmons, their firstborn, arrived in October 1875. However, the family was soon met with tragedy when George died in an accident on his first birthday. He holds a sombre place in local history as the third entry in the Dublin Cemetery Burial Register and was the first to be laid to rest in the family plot.

Despite this sorrow, the family continued to grow. Harry Clement Simmons was born in November 1877, followed by Jessie May in June 1880, and Kate Ella in September 1884. These children grew up in a household grounded in work, community responsibility, and strong family bonds.

William Simmons was not content to serve his district only through his trade. He became actively involved in local government and public affairs and was elected Chairman of the District Council of Dublin, serving from 1880 to 1882. During this

period, he took part in discussions that shaped the district's future, including efforts to secure improved infrastructure for farmers and exporters. In 1876, he proposed the formation of a committee to petition the Government for the construction of a jetty at Dublin Beach, recognising the importance of efficient transport for wheat and other produce.

Even when technicalities briefly prevented his election as a councillor, William remained respected and trusted by the community. Notices published in the local press show him presiding over public meetings and acting in his official capacity as Chairman, reflecting the confidence placed in him by local ratepayers. He also Chaired the Dublin Institute Committee when it opened in 1884 and was said to be a keen cricketer.

William lived out his later years in Windsor, surrounded by family and the community he had helped shape. He died on 12 June 1926 at the age of seventy-eight and was laid to rest here. Soon after, a family notice appeared in the newspaper, remembering him simply and affectionately as a devoted husband and father.

Martha survived William by sixteen years. She lived to the age of ninety-six, dying on 11 July 1942, having witnessed almost a century of change from the earliest colonial years to the modern era. Her burial in Adelaide marked the passing of a woman whose life spanned generations.

Together, the lives of William Simmons and Martha Hardy tell the story of a family built on migration, labour, public service, and endurance. Their legacy lived on through their children and grandchildren, and in the district of Windsor and Dublin, where William's name remained associated with honest work and community leadership.