



**SA Genealogy &  
Heraldry Society  
Inc**

**Library  
201 Unley Road  
Unley SA**

**FACT  
SHEET**

# Deaths & Burials

The Society's searchable databases on the web page are Indexes – Finding-Aids – to the databases on the Society's library computers.

## *Cemetery Index*

This database includes transcriptions from headstones (Memorial Inscriptions) and Burial Registers. While full details are on the library computer database, the Finding-Aid only gives surname, given name and date of death or burial. The death date is the preferred date if known. Some headstones and burial registers have no date.

The project is on-going – we are still data entering some of the larger metropolitan cemeteries, and collecting burial registers.

## *Newspaper Deaths*

This database includes Death, Funeral, In Memoriam and Lest We Forget notices. Since the project is on-going and the volunteers are working backwards, as well as working on the current newspapers, many entries have an In Memoriam notice while we have not yet processed the newspaper of the year of death.

We include the Funeral notices as they often record the burial place; also some families do not insert a Death notice. A few In Memoriam notices list grandchildren, adding to the names year by year.

As 20% of the entries (including Death notices!) have no date recorded, we have chosen to insert the date of the newspaper.

## *Government Gazettes*

Selected topics have been extracted from the SA Government Gazettes. These include the Deceased Estates (1845-2000), Mortuary Records (1865-1939) and Deaths at sea - persons who died on English migrant ships enroute to SA (1849-1866).

Deceased Estates in the gazettes record little information, however sometimes a residence and occupation is given. About one-third of the entries have no date of death – for these we have chosen to record the year of the gazette thus, “GG1932”

## ***Recording policy***

Our policy is to record the information as it appears on the original source, thus there may be unusual spellings or missing data. The headstone may only have initials. It may not record the full date of death; only the year. There may be two or more entries for the same person (from different sources) and so there may be differences in the spelling and recording of, say, the given name, eg Colin James or Jim or C J may refer to the same person.

## ***Errors***

The databases are based on the Society's work over the past 30 years. While we endeavour to reduce the transcription and data entry errors, some do remain. We welcome notification of corrections but remember that we can only record what is on the headstone, or on the burial register, or in the newspaper notice. If the headstone, for example, has an error inscribed, we make a note in the Notes field. This field does not appear on the web database.