



Prospect Road



PROSPECT LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Issue No.7
November
2025

Newsletter



WELCOME

Welcome to our twentieth anniversary edition of our e-newsletter. Twenty years is a proud achievement, which we celebrated at the historic and very welcoming Wassail Wine Bar on Prospect Rd. We have a solid record as the explorers and preservers of the City of Prospect's wonderful history. And I think just as importantly, we're not finished yet!

David Kilner, Chair

Official publication of the Prospect Local History Group Inc.

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AGM 2025

Prospect Local History Group Annual General Meeting

**Thursday 6 November 2025,
7pm - 7.30pm**

at Nailsworth Community
Hall
31 D'Erlanger Ave,
Collinswood
Meeting Room 2

All members welcome.



CALENDAR

AGM 7pm Thurs 6th
Nov 2025

Book Sale Sat 29 Nov
12.30pm -
4pm
PLEG Market
Prospect
Town Hall
128 Prospect
Road



Lucy Hood & PLHG in Parliament

On Thursday, 30 October, several past and present members of the PLHG Committee were invited to Parliament House to watch our local member Lucy Hood speak in Parliament in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Prospect Local History Group and our achievements over the years.

Following the presentation, we were warmly welcomed to afternoon tea with Lucy, and enjoyed a fascinating tour of the Parliamentary Research Library, led by Anna Graves – Deputy Parliamentary Librarian and valued PLHG Committee member.

We are sincerely grateful to Lucy for her continued support of both the Prospect Local History Group and the wider Prospect community. We would also like to extend our congratulations to her on her recent appointment as Minister for Climate, Environment & Water.

Prospect Local History Group 20th Anniversary “Still Making History”

On Saturday, 18 October 2025, members and friends of the Prospect Local History Group (PLHG) gathered at historic Wassail Wine Bar on Prospect Road to celebrate the group's 20th anniversary.

The afternoon began with a welcome from Committee member, Anna Graves, who opened proceedings with an Acknowledgement of Country, recognising the history of the Kurna people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the celebration was held. Anna extended greetings to special guests including **Hon. Lucy Hood**



MP for the State seat of Adelaide, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water; Mayor of Prospect Matthew Larwood, and Councillor Mark Standen, along with past and present members and supporters. Councillor and PLHG committee member Kristina Barnett was unable to be present on the day however we would like to extend our thanks for her contribution to the event.



Anna then reflected on the group's history and its contribution to the Prospect community. This has included projects such as the State Heritage listing of the Air Raid Shelter, contributing to the design of Payinthe, and the drive to prepare an updated thematic analysis of our local built heritage items in order to identify and protect places of significance. In the past twelve months the group were extensively involved in the preparatory work with Council on the Code Amendment, which was recently signed off, and introduces 432 Representative Buildings across 5 of the City of Prospect's 11 Historic Areas.

PLHG 20th Anniversary

“Still Making History”

The group has also begun producing an e-newsletter, David presented a number of very well attended talks during May for the History Festival, and in August were involved with the 130th anniversary of Eliza Hall. In addition to these major projects the PLHG is involved in photographing buildings; researching and documenting aspects of the area's history; digitising images and ephemera in the Library's collection and those in the personal collections of the people of Prospect; preparing and assisting with exhibitions and displays; and organising and assisting with walks and talks, as well as responding to inquiries. Anna spoke of the more than 2,500 volunteer hours each year that it takes to achieve these goals. Anna also noted the City of Prospect's recent recognition of PLHG's value through a four-year annual honorarium of \$2,500 to help support operational costs.

As well as thanking the PLHG Committee for their drive and dedication, Ann also acknowledged determination and skill of the Local History Officer for City of Prospect, Catherine Manning, who attends all meetings and brings insight and a supportive attitude and helps us bring our ideas to fruition.



PLHG Chairperson, Dr David Kilner, followed with an address acknowledging the founding members of the PLHG, and highlighting the groups achievements over the past two decades.

PLHG 20th Anniversary “Still Making History”

Lesley Attema and Merry Wickes shared their memories of growing up at 95 Prospect Road and the many people who lived and worked there over the decades. Their stories offered guests a window into Prospect's history and highlighted the importance of the work of the PLHG in preserving local memories.



Guests then enjoyed the birthday cake, which was generously donated by Councillor Mark Standen, along with plenty of conversation.

Two decades on, the Prospect Local History Group continues to ensure the stories of Prospect's past remain alive and celebrated.



We would like to extend our special thanks to the following people:

- **Chris North** for capturing the day in photographs
- **Elle Larwood** (IG @contentbyelle) for creating the video for social media.
- **Councillor Mark Standen** for the generous donation of the birthday cake.
- **Wassail wine bar, Jake and family** for the use of the venue for the event.

PLHG 20th Anniversary "Still Making History"



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PLHG 20th Anniversary "Still Making History"



**FEATURED STORY:
SOME HISTORY ABOUT
95/97 PROSPECT ROAD, PROSPECT**



The large house at 95 Prospect Road was built by Charles Bawden in the early 1900's.

Until the mid 1800's at this location you would have found yourself in the suburb of Oxford Estate and the road would have been known as Eliza Street, named for Eliza Harrington from a prominent family in Prospect's early history. Eliza Hall is also named for her.

Eliza Street was then a short street that did not join up to North Adelaide and the city, a circumstance that was a source of much concern to local residents. The exciting story of how the road was eventually pushed through to join up to the city can be found in the Prospect Local History Group publication *Stories of Prospect Past*, available from the Prospect Library. By 1895 the street had become known as Prospect Road.

Bawden Family

Charles Bawden was a blacksmith, farmer and coachbuilder. The family business was Bawden and Sons Coachbuilders in Mellor Street, Adelaide.

95/97 PROSPECT ROAD, PROSPECT

Charles Bawden and his wife Elizabeth Ann Vine married in Adelaide in September 1867. By the mid 1890's the family was living in the large, two story home at 112 Prospect Road. You can still see that building behind the shops on the corner of Myrtle Street. It is possible that Vine Street (now also Plaza) was named for this family. Patti Bawden of dancing fame was a grand daughter.

The Bawden family was particularly notable for reportedly having twenty two children. This is likely to be correct as research has verified the names and birth dates of nineteen of those children. Sadly, as was common in those days, several of their children died very young.

The family had an interest in racing horses. They reportedly had the run of the open land behind the house from Flora Terrace and right up to Pulsford Road where they paddocked their horses and trained jumpers.

The sons had their own tug-of-war team, and for a few years were invincible. They would set out each morning for their coach building premises in the city, driving a tandem team.

In April 1904 Ern Bawden had a bad accident on his horse, Tornado, in the Amateur steeplechase at Oakbank. Cliff Neil in an article in the Northern Suburbs Weekly wrote that he recalled being at the stone wall jump where the mount crashed. Ern's blood-covered face as he lay unconscious haunted Cliff for a long time. Ern was never the same again, although he recovered somewhat, but always carried the facial scars.



95/97 PROSPECT ROAD, PROSPECT

Richard Stephen "Steve" Wickes

Wickes Broadway Stores

Steve Wickes, his wife and four children lived in various houses in Prospect before buying the house at 95 Prospect Road in 1921. Steve had a painting business but was also an artist and Fellow of the Royal SA Society of Arts. He taught painting from home to students who showed talent and encouraged his sons, Ern and Lester, who both studied at the School of Art. Fellow artists, such as James Ashton, gathered here for painting evenings and to enjoy each others' company and Elsie's excellent suppers. Steve's young daughter was often the subject of their paintings.

In 1927 it was decided to build 2 shops on the land at 97 Prospect Road, however with the economy falling, loans were only made available for shops which were attached to a house. Although very unhappy about it, Steve decided to build two shops attached to the house at 95 Prospect Road as well, making four in all. It is still possible to see the front peak of the original house and the chimneys above the roof of the shops. The shops still have the wide display windows, set back doors and a wrought iron verandah. The stairs inside shop No.95 and 95a, one original and one a more recent addition, lead up into the front rooms of the original house.

Over the years various tenants rented the separate shops, with the family operating them when they were vacant. In lean times it was considered bad for business to have an empty shop next door.

For a time part of one of the shops was run as Broadway Library. A newspaper advertisement says there was a joining fee of 2/6 with exchange for 3d, or 6/- per quarter for 3 books at a time. But the library eventually proved a disaster and had to close when an epidemic in the 1930's meant that no one would borrow books because they may be "infected". As well as diphtheria and whooping cough, there was a bad measles epidemic in the mid 1930's. When a polio outbreak occurred everyone was told to keep the books they had and the library was closed as no one would borrow books that had been going from house to house.

95/97 PROSPECT ROAD, PROSPECT

So with an empty shop considered very bad for business when it became increasingly difficult to find people to rent the other shops Steve's daughter, "Bobbie" took over and managed all four shops. These became known as Wickes' Broadway Stores and "Miss Wickes" became a very well known figure in Prospect. Over time her four nieces all worked in the shops to earn some pocket money.

A 1956 article in the Northern Suburbs Weekly describes how the shops were to be "modernised" by being joined together.

Wickes Stores open new Modern Shop

"The progressiveness of Wickes Stores Limited Prospect Road, Prospect during the last 27 years of their establishment is reflected by the fact they are now opening their fourth shop and are converting each of them into departmental sections. The latest acquisition are the premises formerly occupied by the CPS Store which separated two of the Wickes' shops. This has now been remodelled on very modern lines including concealed dividing wall so that customers may enter one shop and walk through into the adjoining store."

The whole family became very involved with the local community. Steve was a member of the Prospect, Nailsworth and Enfield Traders Association. During a big promotion in 1930 he designed the award certificates for the local shop window displays and Wickes Broadway Stores won several awards.

When television came to Adelaide the family shop at 95 Prospect Road was one of the first to have a working set on display in the window and the crowds that would gather each night spilled onto Prospect Road and caused such a traffic problem that the police came and asked them to turn it off. The grandchildren remember sitting on the wooden floor of the shop watching a small black and white TV while people outside banged on the door wanting to come inside.

The home and shops passed out of the Wickes family when they were sold c1980.

95/97 PROSPECT ROAD, PROSPECT

95 Prospect Road Today: Wassail Wine Bar

Established in 2011 by Trish, Judd and Jake Chillingworth, Wassail is a family owned and operated bar in an historic 1890's building at 95 Prospect Road, Prospect showcasing South Australian food and wine, an eclectic range of live jazz, rock, soul or Celtic tunes and art. Wassail means "to toast to one's health" in Old English and is imbued with a history of wine from the grapes carved into the original keystone above the bar to the century-old vine that winds it's way along the beer garden fence. The old-world feel of the building is preserved with antique furniture and embellishments, adding modern twists along the way. The Mirror Room is hung entirely with salvaged mirrors; another is decorated with a collection of porcelain ducks.

Sources: Trove website, Cliff Neil article in Northern Suburbs Weekly. PLHG "Old Prospectors" website, Wassail website and Lesley Attema.

Membership

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PROSPECT LOCAL HISTORY
GROUP IS FREE!

Just fill out the membership form on our website [here](#)

We love hearing from the community!

Got a local history matter to tell us about? Want to contribute a
story or photos?

Send us an email at the address below!

localhistoryinprospect@gmail.com

WWW.PROSPECTHISTORYGROUP-ADELAIDE.COM.AU

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