



Das Lied

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We're 150!

As all members would know, the ALT was founded on September 1st, 1858 with Herr J.W. Schierenbeck as its first President and Carl Linger as its founding conductor. As I write this, that makes us over 150 years old. As one comedian said, "We've been singing for 150 years, and boy, are we tired!"

I'd like to publicly acknowledge, on behalf of the choir, the hard work put in by most of the members of the Festival Committee -Peter Reeh, Manfred Grafton, Wolfgang Fritzsche and Karl Ascher. There are of course many other people who are still working hard to make the weekend a success—and not only members. For example, Maria Schmelzle is toiling away at selling tickets. The weekend of 3 - 5 October promises to be a long and enjoyable series of events. Bring it on!

BvdW

From the Archives

To get a feel for the South Australia in 1858 I would like to refer to an article from a Victorian German newspaper *Der Kosmopolit*, tracing a certain Johann Friedrich Carl Wilhelmi (1827-1884), known as Charles. A trained gardener born in Leipzig on 4 September 1827, he left his parents for his travels aboard the *Goddefroy* arriving in Adelaide in 1850. For the next 8 years he travelled through the Adelaide hills, collecting plant specimens and recording his contacts with local aborigines.

Arriving with the same sailing ship were Ernst Bernard Heyne (his descendants are still running a nursery in Norwood), and Otto Richard Boesewetter. All three were gardeners. Wilhelmi met Ferdinand Mueller who employed him as a collector for the Royal Society of Victoria as well as some of the Botanical Gardens in Germany. His lecture to the *Deutscher Verein* in Melbourne speaks of an excursion to the so-called "German Paddock", 48 km from Adelaide in the foothills. His task was to deliver a letter from Leipzig to a Mr Moritz Weidenbach who lived somewhere near *Grevers* (now Crafers). His English was limited to "Yes" and "No", and his travels led him along a dirt road no wider than a wagon track. Arriving at a junction he duly took a wrong turn and got lost. When he finally arrived at some unknown abode he was confronted by four men ready to defend themselves against any prospective thief. They soon accepted Wilhelmi as peaceful and gave him shelter for the night. As luck would have it, Mr Weidenbach lived not far away and was overjoyed to see Charles the next day. At the time a number of settlers from Germany lived in the area near Macclesfield, businessmen, architects, officers, sailors, gardeners and others, which no doubt explains the term "German Paddock".

On another field trip to Wellington on the Murray together with a local

Birthdays

June

13th: Tony Horwath (85)
19th: Peter Tamm (68)

July

6th: Gerhard Hemmes (70)

7th: Gerhard Valk (77)

12th: Wolfgang Kretci (68)

16th: Karl Ascher (72)

August

3rd: Werner Tromp (77)

8th: Maurice Sykes (71)

10th: Gerhard Aust (78)

12th: Erwin Weise (93)

13th: Helmut Biedermann (80)

13th: John van Dulken (71)

September

13th: Rudi Diessner (80)

19th: Manfred Baier (70)

22nd: Norbert Petersen (74)

25th: Pieter van de Water (72)

REMINDER

**Membership Fees
ARE NOW DUE**

See Bill van de Water if you wish to pay your membership, or to find out where you stand in regards to fees.

Are you up to date?



Bushman, Wilhelmi encountered for the first time local tribes in canoes and women plaiting baskets and table mats. As was customary they sat around a fire and traded tobacco for their pipes in return for artefacts. The average depth of Lake Alexandrina at the time was estimated to be 3.5 m.

Wilhelmi returned to Germany in February 1869 and settled in Dresden. By now married for a second time, he established a seed shop later continued by his eldest son. He died in Dresden on 30 November 1884.

PT

NB: This is a very rare historical report as most references were handwritten and usually lost during travels.



The earliest known photograph of the ALT—1863

The last word: Some more fractured definitions

ARCHITECT: Someone who is neither macho enough to become an engineer nor gay enough to become a designer.

ECONOMIST: An expert who will know tomorrow why that which he predicted yesterday didn't happen today.

PESSIMIST: Optimist with experience.

STATISTICIAN: Someone who is good with numbers but lacks the personality to be an engineer.

LOVE: Four-letter word, two vowels, one consonant and two idiots.

NANOSECOND: Fraction of time which occurs between the lights turning green and the car behind honking its horn.