



Art & Heritage Collections

Cultural Celebration

Historical note

In 1860 William Horn, who later became a mining magnate, pastoralist and politician, worked with Sir Walter Watson Hughes on a property named Wallaroo. It was on that property that shepherd Patrick Ryan found copper ore. Hughes entrusted Horn to ride to Adelaide and beat a rival syndicate to lodge a mining claim with the lands office. Horn reached Adelaide in 22 hours—a great feat. In the lands office rival syndicate representatives were already waiting, but by chance and through knowing the clerk the claim delivered by Horn was processed first which created ructions and later triggered an out of court settlement.

Regardless of the above complications the mine went ahead and contributed greatly to Hughes' wealth. Hughes is often referred to as the father of the University of Adelaide because of his generous gift to establish two foundation professorial chairs. Following his example other like-minded generous South Australians also contributed funds and made possible the foundation of the University of Adelaide in 1874.

The University of Adelaide will greet and host 25 horse riders as part of the sesquicentenary celebrations of copper discovery in the Copper Coast District Council area. The riders are re-enacting an historic ride from Moonta to Adelaide by William Horn who first lodged a mining claim for the copper deposits discovered at Wallaroo in 1859.

**Please join us in front of Bonython Hall on
Tuesday 15 June 2010 at 10.15 am to greet the riders.**

The re-enactment ride has been organised by the **Yorke Peninsula Pony Clubs** whose riders will deliver the claim to the University of Adelaide to be presented by the **Mayor of Copper Coast District Council Paul Thomas** to the **Lord Mayor of Adelaide Michael Harbison** and **Professor Peter Dowd, Executive Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Mathematical Sciences, The University of Adelaide.**

The riders will begin their journey on Saturday 11 June and ride in three stages arriving in Adelaide on Monday afternoon. The ceremonial leg of the ride will take them from the Parade Ground along King William Street and North Terrace to Bonython Hall on the following Tuesday. It promises to be a spectacular sight as the dignitaries await and greet the riders.

Formal presentations and acknowledgement of the riders will be followed by morning tea in Bonython Hall featuring Cornish pasties from the renowned Prices Bakery.

*An exhibition of copper ore specimens from the area
will be on view in the foyer of Bonython Hall.*

Please register your attendance if you wish to join us for morning tea by emailing art.heritage@adelaide.edu.au or call 8303 4031 for more information.

image
University of Adelaide deed, 1874
signed by Sir Walter Watson Hughes
University Archives
photograph by Grant Hancock



With thanks to the Office of Vice President Services and Resources and Development and Alumni of the University of Adelaide and University Staff Club for their support and encouragement in staging this event, our partners Copper Coast District Council for their coordination, the South Australian Museum and Prices Bakery

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