

Mark Hamilton

From: Zilio, Fran (SAM) <Fran.Zilio@samuseum.sa.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 17 July 2017 2:12 PM
To: Mark Hamilton
Subject: RE: 'Conan Doyle in Adelaide' - Your upcoming luncheon address to The Adelaide Club on 15 August 2017
Attachments: BRG244_HamiltonsEwellVineyards_serieslist.pdf

Dear Mr Hamilton

I read your email with great delight. I was not aware that Sir Arthur and Lady Jean Conan Doyle visited your family winery.

Jenni and I have managed to unravel some of the mystery of the Conan Doyle ten day lecture tour but cannot account for the entire period. We know that Sir Arthur and Lady Jean visited the Penfolds winery at Magill on Wednesday 22 September 1920 by inadvertently stumbling across the winery's visitors' book at the National Museum in Canberra. I am interested to know the date of the visit so we can add it to our timeline. Naturally, it would be wonderful to see your visitors' book and the photograph as well.

I have attached a list of items held in the State Library that I located on their website.

In turn, I am more than happy to provide you with copies of photographs that we have collected during our research and a copy of our time line. We have a size limitation for send files over the internet so perhaps we can arrive at a suitable arrangement.

The historical photographs on your website are impressive. Thank you for sharing the details of your family and the visit with me.

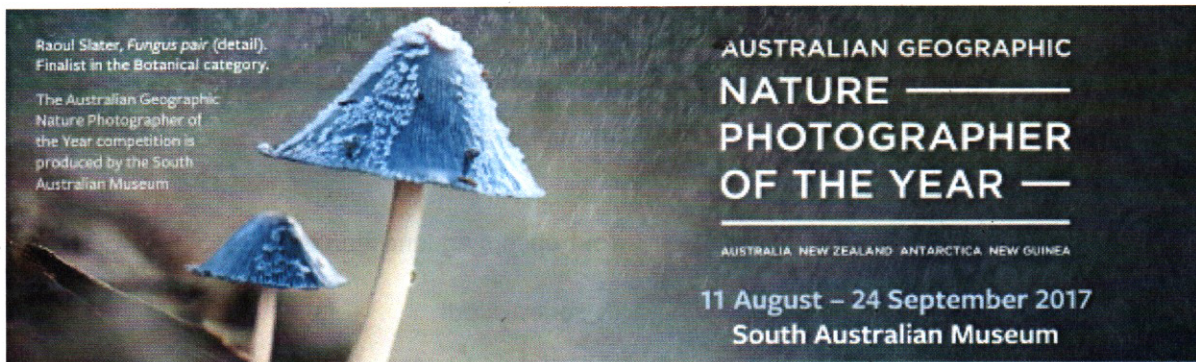
I look forward to meeting you.

Wishing you all the best

Fran

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From: Mark Hamilton [mailto:mhamilton@hamiltonewell.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 17 July 2017 1:05 PM
To: Zilio, Fran (SAM) <Fran.Zilio@samuseum.sa.gov.au>
Subject: 'Conan Doyle in Adelaide' - Your upcoming luncheon address to The Adelaide Club on 15 August 2017

Dear Ms Zilio

I saw notification of this luncheon address in the July 2017 newsletter for The Adelaide Club.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle visited Hamilton's Ewell Vineyards' Winery at Glenelg, South Australia, during his Adelaide visit in September 1920.

I have always been aware of his visit on the scale of the common understanding and history passed down in the family. This is referred to in the family's wine archives. In those days, and up to the 1980's, visitors from overseas and interstate regularly visited Hamilton's, and also Penfolds at Magill, due to the proximity of those wineries to Adelaide. In those days, you would appreciate, the Adelaide Plains was a major wine growing district.

I think we may, in fact, have a photograph of him at the Winery somewhere in our archives. I can recall some acknowledgement of his visit, which I think was in the form of a photograph and description, on the wall in Cellar Door Sales on Morphett Road, when I was a university student, working weekends in cellar door sales in the early to mid-1970s. There are also some visitors books which were reserved for "famous" people who visited the winery. You will see photographs of the vineyard area and the winery in our images bank and history section on our website (link below). There was also a lot of material given by my family to the State Library.

At the time of Conan Doyle's visit, Hamilton's Ewell Vineyards was in the process of passing to its fourth generation. My grandfather, Eric Hamilton, was general manager, but the business was run by his mother, Mrs Frank Hamilton, and the Executor Trustee Company Limited as the executors of the estate of the late Frank Eric Hamilton. Her name was Violet Elsie Mabel (nee) Ayliffe, though commonly referred to by all as the Mater. Eric Hamilton had returned from World War I and, as a 26 year old, had assumed the role of day to day management of the winery. Given Conan Doyle's status, I think it likely that it was entertained by (certainly) Eric, and possibly the Mater. Eric was yet to marry by that date.

Anyway, I will remember to keep an eye out for artifacts relating to Conan Doyle's visit to the winery.

Irrespective of whether you have any artifacts or documentation showing his visit to the winery, or containing detail about it, I would be grateful to receive a copy of any material which you have prepared and any artifacts which you might possess or have copies of.

Kind regards

Mark Hamilton

Hamilton's Ewell Vineyards

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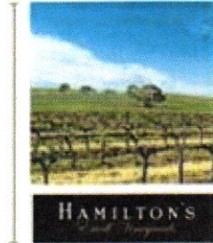
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HAMILTON'S EWELL VINEYARDS LTD.

BRG 244
Series list

Hamilton's Ewell Vineyards were founded by Richard Hamilton (1792-1852) in 1837, and named after the village of Ewell in Surrey England. The original vineyard of 5 acres was on an 80 acre Section at Glenelg, which in 1841 produced 1,200 gallons of wine. Hamilton's son Henry arrived in South Australia in 1841, and in 1844 settled on his property at Oaklands (now Warradale) on the Sturt River. Richard Hamilton died in 1852 and Henry took charge of both properties.

In 1890 Henry Hamilton passed over the management of the Ewell Vineyards to his son F.E. (Frank) Hamilton. In the early years of this century the vineyards attained their maximum area of 156 acres.

In 1934 the Company known as Hamilton's Ewell Vineyards Pty. Ltd. was formed with F.E. Hamilton's son Eric as the first director. He died in 1967 when his son Robert became director. The Ewell Vineyards at Warradale were sold at auction in April 1977 for residential use.

Records of Hamilton's Ewell Vineyards were donated to the Mortlock Library in 1993.

Source:

Bishop, G.C. "The Vineyards of Adelaide" Blackwood, S.A. The Author, p. 39- 40.

N.H.T

November 1993

Spirit Warehouse Cask Account Ledger. 1936-1950 5.5 cm. Manuscript.	<u>1</u>
Spirit Store Ledger (Excise). 1939-1949. 5cm. Manuscript.	<u>2</u>
Distillery Diary. 1931-1932 3 cm. Manuscript.	<u>3</u>