

*History of the Family of Thomas & Hannah Welbourn
Who arrived in Adelaide by sailing vessel in 1836.*

Prepared by his grand-daughter Marion King (nee Welbourn)

In the year 1835 Thomas Welbourn of Lincolnshire left England with his wife Hannah (nee Playford) on the sailing ship. "John Renwick" for Australia, and landed at Glenelg, South Australia on the 18th February 1837 & eventually settled in Hindley Street.

A newly married couple in the year 1835, they decided to leave dear old England Shores, and with fixed determination, to try and make their fortunes in Australia. Their parents were very perturbed, but allowed them to go. So they booked their passages to sail on a certain date. How often the bride wished that she had not come as the trip was so slow and often wondered if they really would get to this wonderful land, so much talked about by Capt Cook and others.

How excited everybody was when they saw the land. They had a rough landing, and the men had to carry the women on to the shores of South Australia

It was a vast country, all trees and rough country, but they plodded on until they got to Adelaide. The husband got to hear that the emigrants were pegging out land so this young couple did. The wife being an excellent cook, and the man a baker by trade they soon found means by starting a eating house in Hindley Street, which was the centre of the new city and began to make good headway.

Two children were born, Thomas Playford Welbourn on July 14, 1838, and Catherine Hannah Welbourn on June 20, 1840.

Then Thomas went prospecting and left his wife at the shop where she kept herself and the children. They gradually drifted apart. He became addicted to strong drink as many of the early settlers did. They drowned their sorrows and hardships in beer.

Mrs Welbourn took up land for her brother John Playford in England, and he left to come out, but died at sea, so she wrote to her mother, who decided that her son Thomas Playford should come out and take charge of the land. He came and settled in Mitcham, where he reared his large family of 3 sons and 4 daughters and a stepdaughter from his wife's previous marriage.

He was very happy with his sister's choice of land that she had pegged out & settled at Mitchama few miles from Adelaide and planted vines.

Thomas was the Rev. Thomas Playford and he started a Christian Church at Mitcham, Bentham St, Adelaide, and other churches all over South Australia.

He was a big man and his family had several weighing 20 stone & under. Annie the eldest daughter married Mr James Prince, Jane became Mrs John Nicholson, Sarah became Mrs Herbert Anderson. Harriett never married. The stepdaughter married a Mr Gatwick, and she had a daughter Anne who afterwards married Rev Thomas Lees, a preacher of the Christian Church.

Thomas Playford married Mary June Kinsman, and settled at Norton Summit and started fruitgrowing. They had ten children 5 boys & 5 girls.

Hannah Welbourn took her two children (Thomas & Catherine) to England where they were educated at Hatfield. After they returned, Thomas, in 1859, then 21 years, married Anne Richardson of Mitcham. Her father was a grazier in Brown Hill Creek. Catherine Hannah Welbourn married her cousin Edward Playford. They had 7 children.

Thomas Playford Welbourn had eleven children – 5 girls & 6 boys They lived at Mitcham until their death.

The Children were:-

Katherine	Born	May 02	1860
Emily Sarah Tomlinson		Nov 23	1861
Albert Edward		Aug 29	1862
Annie Playford		Oct 03	1865
Thomas Middleton		Sep 25	1867
Marion (my grandmother)		Jun 24	1869
Lloyd		Oct	1871
William Bloom		Jul 25	1873
Ralph Gerald			1875
Violet May		May 11	1877

The children all married and had families and passed away early in life.

Emily lived until she was 74, the others (except Marion) all under that age.

Thomas P Welbourn died when he was 77 years, and Ann Welbourn when 71 years. They saw their Silver & Golden anniversaries of their marriage on 12th July, the date that Thomas was born and the date on which he died.

Thomas Welbourn Senior had brothers John & William, and William came to Australia and married Elizabeth Siviour

Note: Transcribed from hand written notes prepared by Marion King (nee Welbourn) in about 1950

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August 18th 2003