

The Observer (Adelaide SA: 1905 - 1931) Saturday August 13, 1910

**Obituary
Mr Richard Carruthers.**

Mr. Richard Carruthers, one of Strathalbyn's earliest pioneers, died on August 4. Mr. Carruthers had attained his 84th year. He arrived in South Australia with his wife in 1852, and after having worked on a farm for two years to gain experience, he acquired a large area on the Angas Plains and began farming. He was successful on the land and was never tired of recounting his travels to and from Adelaide with produce, when bullock was the most reliable mode of locomotion. Mr Carruthers retired from farming in 1870, and went to Strathalbyn to reside. As a public man he confined himself to District Council and Corporation work. He served as a Councillor for several consecutive years and was twice Mayor of Strathalbyn. He was married in Scotland to a daughter of the late Mr. John Davidson, and his brother-in-law, the late Mr. George Davidson, was associated with him in business on Angas Plains for many years. The deceased gentleman acquired a considerable amount of landed property in Strathalbyn and Milang districts, and from the first mentioned property he recently presented 12 acres, worth approximately 1000 pounds, to the local agricultural society. It was hoped that he would have been spared to perform the opening ceremony at the society's show in October. By his death, the cricket, football and other sporting clubs have lost a generous supporter, and St. Andrews's Presbyterian Church one of its staunchest pillars. Mr. Carruthers has left no family.

Adelaide Chronicle, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 13 August 1910,

Death of a Pioneer Farmer.

Mr. Richard Carruthers, whose death occurred at Strathalbyn on August 4, was a former Mayor of Strathalbyn. He was born in the North of England, near Carlisle, on August 23, 1825, and was brought up to farming pursuits in his native country - being descended from a race of farmers. In 1852 he came to South Australia on the ship Epaminondas with his wife (nee Sarah Davidson), and the young couple shortly after arrival went to Mount Barker where they remained about six months. Mr. Carruthers became a tenant farmer under the late Mr. Edward Stirling (father of Sir Lancelot Stirling) for three years on the Lake Plains, near Milang, where he carried on farming with very successful results for about 10 years. At the end of this period he purchased the beautiful property 'Brigend' comprising some 80 acres about a quarter of a mile from Strathalbyn Post-office, within the town boundary, where he lived in retirement until his death. Mr. Carruthers always displayed considerable interest in municipal and district council work, and also in the Strathalbyn Agricultural Society, and about a year ago presented to the trustees of the Society a block of land containing 12 acres,- portion of the above Brigend estate. This was considered a handsome gift, and the society is having a marble tablet placed in the stone pavilion now being erected on the land. Mr. Carruthers' remains were interred in the Strathalbyn Cemetery on August 7.

**Southern Argus (Port Elliot, SA :
1866 - 1954), Thursday 11 August
1910,**

The late Mr. R. Carruthers.

After a somewhat lingering illness from which it had been hoped he would recover, Mr. Richard Carruthers, one of the Strathalbyn district's best known residents, passed away peacefully on Thursday night last, at the ripe old age of 83 years, fifty-eight of which had been spent in the neighbourhood. Mr. Carruthers, with his wife came to South Australia in 1852, and after spending about six months at Mt» Barker, he took up land at Angas Plains and started on his own account, gradually extending his holdings, success attending his labours from the first. In 1870 he retired from business, let his farms and came to reside at Strathalbyn, purchasing a couple of sections here ('Hill Foot' and 'Brigend') and the newly built house in which he spent the remainder of his life. He was shortly after this elected as a member of the local District Council, and later on served for several years as a town councillor, and for two terms was Mayor of Strathalbyn. He took a keen interest in municipal matters, and also in mining matters, his ventures on the stock exchange as a rule turning out satisfactory for him. Mrs. Carruthers, who died just two years ago, was a sister of the late Mr. George Davidson, of Angas Plains, with whom Mr. Carruthers was a good deal associated in business in the early days, another sister marrying the late Mr. Thos. Graham, of Blackwood, Strathalbyn. He leaves no family, the only child born to them having died in infancy, Mr. Carruthers was of very genial nature, and up till very recently was remarkably

hale and hearty, his activity equalling that of many men a score of years his junior. He was a staunch supporter of the football and cricket clubs, of the Presbyterian Church and the Agricultural Society, to which latter he recently made the generous gift of the new show grounds, a beautiful block of land twelve acres in extent. He looked forward very enthusiastically to formally opening the grounds in October next, and it was hoped by the Society that he might be spared to do so, as he would have been thus able to throw open for inspection grounds fitted up and arranged perhaps better than any other similar ones in the State. It was not to be, however, but though he has passed away his name will ever be honoured in the town's history, and his memory live long after him. He was laid to rest in the Strathalbyn cemetery, when a very large procession of traps — over sixty — followed the hearse to the grave, round which had previously gathered scores of people, who were anxious to show their respect to the dead townsman. The Strathalbyn footballers preceded the hearse to the cemetery gates, where the members of the Agricultural Society's Ground Committee took place next to the relatives. The Rev, G. C. Love, M.A., B.D. conducted the funeral service.