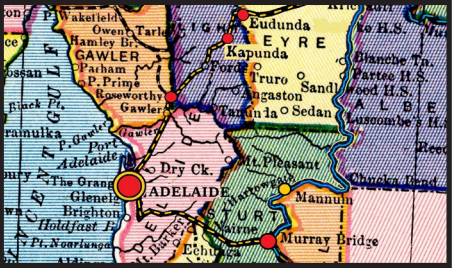


A CELEBRATION OF A STORY ABOUT BOB (THE RAILWAY DOG).



Caroline Carleton wrote the words of *The Song of Australia*



When you've got something that is the best in the world (Bob's story) it is natural that you want to show it to the rest of the world. That is where we are with Bob. There have been other railway dogs in the world but none with adventures as many and varied as our Bob's. Those other railway dogs achieved notoriety in their own countries and were honoured with movies that told the story.

There was Owney, who was the mascot of the US postal service and rode aboard the trains and kept watch over the mail bags in the 1890s. Then there was Lampo, whose home station was Campaglia in Northern Italy in the 1960s. And finally, there was Hachiko who was more a railway station dog than a travelling dog. He would go each morning with his master, Professor Uenno to the Shibuya station in Tokyo and return in the evening to meet his master. The Professor died in 1925 and for another 9 years the dog would continue his daily ritual.

In 2019 we published *Bob's Railway* subtitled 'Turbulent Political Times in South Australia and a Remarkable Railroading Dog'. We have used over 100 contemporary newspaper reports and archive items, and supported the text with a commentary of the political events of Bob's times (1884 - 1895).

Along the way we have got to know Bob. He was a free spirit, his own master. He befriended many, but chose his friends wisely. Spencer Skipper was right when he described Bob as 'a well balanced democrat'.

Bob's story has attracted many who revere his unique place in Australian history and folklore. We have been asked many times whether there is or will be a Bob movie. We have responded to that sentiment by crafting this narrative as something that may interest the moviemakers. It is for others to take it from here.

In the past we have featured an epilogue that has been written the day before we go to the printer.

Present indications are that the epilogue for this book will have quite a tale to tell.

John and Patricia Wilson

25 October 2022