



People News

NETHERHAMPTON

Francis William Thring, Explorer

Francis was born in Netherhampton on 5th May 1837. He was the son of a freehold farmer who was looking for better prospects than he had in Wiltshire. The whole family emigrated to South Australia in 1849 on the Duke of Wellington.

At the age of 23 Francis was member of the John Mcdouall Stuart's 5th Expedition where he was in charge of the horses. On the 6th Expedition Stuart was so impressed with him, he named a water source after him. It was called Thring Pond but now called Thring Swamp.

In 1865 he was part of John McKinlay's party , which was to explore between the Adelaide and Liverpool Rivers to locate a good site for the main settlement.

In November 1916 the town between Wallaroo and Port Wakefield was named after him - Thrington.

He died in 1908.