

---

## Community voices – transcript

*The South Australian Colonist* 19 May 1840, p. 162

### Thomas Roberts.

*Letter from Thomas Roberts, formerly a common miner, sent home to his relations who reside at Perranarworthal, near Truro, Cornwall.*

---

Adelaide, September 22, 1839.

Dear Mother, Brothers, and Sisters,

We are happy to inform you that we are all in good health, and we have had no sickness since we left home. We had a pleasant passage as Heaven could bless us with. ...

We cast anchor at Holdfast Bay on the 8th of June, 1839, and at Port the 11th; landed on the 13th all in good health. There were bullock carts waiting to take our baggage to Adelaide which is about seven miles. We were put into the Government cottages. We had one week's rations served out to us. I lived there two months, Jonathan (his brother) three months. I paid rent for three weeks, 12s. a week. Dear brothers, Jonathan and I have been working in a quarry ever since we have been here. We have 3s. 6d. a load; we have good masters; we receive our wages every week; we have not come under £4 a week each. William and John [two of the writer's children] work with us; they have £1 5s. a week. Dear brothers, we often think of you; we wish mother, brothers, and sisters were all here; it is a pleasant country.