
TABLES

Table 1

Noms d'arena
Examples of adopted Australian circus names

Vide: Page 32.

Circus family name	Main period	Original name
Barton	c1904 +	Worley
Colleano	c1910 +	Sullivan
Cousins	c1857 +	Bumpuss
Eroni	1893-1922	Perry
Hyland	c1888-c1923	Roberts
Lennon	c1904 +	Weiss
St Leon	1865-c1963	Jones

Sources: Interviews; birth, marriage & death registrations; death notices; obituaries.

Table 2

Early circus entrepreneurs

Vide: Page 37.

Name	From	Origin	Status	Exp	Edu	Father
George Croft	1832	London	TOL	Yes	Unk	Soldier
Edward Hughes	1841	Dublin, Ireland	Free	Yes	Ill	Farmer
Robert A Radford	1847	Exeter, Devon	Free	Yes	R, W	Gardener
John Jones	1847	London	TOL	Yes	R	Chim sweep
William H Hayes	1848	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unknown
James H Ashton	1848	Rochford, Essex	Free	Yes	R, W	Tinker
John Malcom	1850	Unknown	Free	No	R, W	Unknown
Henry Burton	1850	Horncastle,Lincs	Free	Yes	R, W	Esquire
Henry Adams	1851	London	Free	Yes	Unk	Performer
John S Noble	1851	Mass, USA	Free	Yes	Unk	Unknown
James Melville	1851	Inverness, Scot	Free	No	Unk	Boatman
Joseph A Rowe	1852	S Carolina,USA	Free	Yes	R, W	Unknown
William Banham	1854	England	Free	Yes	Unk	Performer
R J Osborne	1854	Unknown	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unknown
G B W Lewis	1854	London	Free	Yes	R, W	Unknown
William H Foley	1854	Washington, USA	Free	Yes	Unk	Unknown
William Brown	1855	Norfolk	TOL	No	R, W	Gunsmith

Sources: Interviews; convict indents; birth, marriage & death registrations; obituaries.

Abbreviations: TOL (Ticket of leave), Unk (unknown), Ill (illiterate), R (can read), W (can write).

Tables

Table 3
Radfords Royal Circus, Van Diemens Land
Cumulative composition of performers

Vide: Page 45.

Adult performers		Juvenile performers	
Male	Female	Male	Female
59	7	4	5

Sources: Data compiled from reports in Van Diemens Land newspapers, Dec 1847-Jan 1850.

Table 4
Major Australian circuses
Reliance on rail transport

Vide: Page 182.

Year	Track km	Circus					Rail
		Wirth	FitzG	Perry	Coll	St L	Total
1855	37	N	N	N	N	W	0
1861	390	N	N	N	N	W	0
1871	1,657	N	N	N	N	W	0
1881	6,456	W	N	N	N	W	0
1891	15,290	R	O	W	N	W	1
1901	20,240	R	R	W	N	W	2
1911	25,876	R	N	W	W	W	1
1921	37,492	R	N	W	R	R	2
1931	42,867	R	N	R	N	M	2
1941	43,829	R	N	R	N	M	2
1951	43,380	R	N	M	N	N	1
1961	42,007	R	N	M	N	N	1
1971	40,269	N	N	M	N	N	0

Sources: Contemporary advertisements & memoirs.

Abbreviations: N (non-operational); W (wagon based transport); M (motorised transport); R (rail-based transport); FitzG (FitzGerald Bros Circus); Coll (Colleanos All-Star Circus); St L (St Leons Circus).

Table 5
Wagga Wagga & Rockhampton
Comparison of transitory show activity
Vide: Page 196.

	1881	1881	1891	1891
Wagga Wagga & area	Town	Australia	Town	Australia
Population	3,795	2,250,194	4,596	3,240,985
Circus	4	11	4	12
Other	6	20	8	43
Total	10	31	12	55
Rockhampton & area	Town	Australia	Town	Australia
Population	7,435	2,250,194	11,629	3,240,985
Circus	1	11	1	12
Other	5	20	2	43
Total	6	31	3	55

Sources: Swan, 1970; St Leon, 1986; Brown, 1986.

Table 6
Visiting circuses & wild west shows
Vide: Page 219.

	First	Second	Third	Origin
Nobles, J S, Olympic Circus	1851-54			USA
Rowes, J A, North American Circus	1852-54	1858-59		USA
Cooke, Zoyara & Wilsons Great World Circus	1866-67			USA
Chiarinis Royal Italian Circus	1873	1880	1884-85	USA
Wilsons San Francisco Palace Circus	1876	1877	1881-82	USA
Cooper, Bailey & Co.'s International Allied Shows	1876-77	1877-78		USA
Coles, W W, Concorporated Shows	1880-81			USA
Fryer & Co.'s	1885-87			USA
Silbon-Stirk Congress of Wonders	1889			UK/USA
Carvers, Dr W F, Wild America	1890-91			USA
Harmstons Great American & Continental Cirque	1890-91	1897-98		UK/USA
Sells Bros	1891-92			USA
Fillis' Great Circus & Menagerie	1892-94			South Africa
Bristols, Professor D M, Great American Circus	1897-98			USA
Texas Jacks Wild West Show	1898			USA
Jordans, The Flying, Circus Carnival	1897-98	1899		USA
Bostock & Wombells Novelty Circus & Menagerie	1906			UK
Bud Atkinsons American Circus & Wild West	1911	1912-13		USA
Kid Carters American Wild West Show	1920			USA

Sources: Contemporary Australian newspapers.

Table 7
Cooper, Bailey & Co.'s 1876-77 Australian Tour
Income statement, as reconstructed
Vide: Page 222.

	US \$	£	£	£
Total reported receipts				44,362
Less: Expenses (USA)				
Transportation by sea San Francisco to Sydney	11,100			
Other expenses at San Francisco on a/c of Australian trip	8,656			
<i>Translated into £ Australian @ £1 = US \$2.40.</i>	19,756		8,232	
Less: Expenses (Australia)				
Salaries @ £340 for 26 weeks		8,840		
Printing		3,123		
Coastal shipping, Australia (approx 3,888 miles)		3,050		
Erection of 'amphitheatres' in colonial capitals		2,275		
Rail transportation (2,006 miles)		1,380		
Gas piping and billing in colonial capitals		721		
Haulage		427		
Other expenses, <i>not detailed</i>		8,277	28,093	
Total reported expenses				36,325
Net profit, as reconstructed				£8,037

Source: James A. Bailey Papers, McCaddon Collection, Princeton Library, New Jersey, USA.

Table 8
W W Coles Concorporated Shows
Summary of touring activity, 1880-81
Vide: Page 225.

Year	Tour	Stands	Days	Attendance		
				Total	Per stand	Per day
1880	American [^]	146	166	1.229m	8,415	7,401
1880-1	Australasian [#]	48	135	1.085m	22,604	8,037
1881	American [^]	111	130	1.041m	9,375	8,005

Source: Data drawn from Cole's 1882 Courier as presented in Slout, 2002, p.293.

Notes: # Australia and New Zealand, approximately 5 months; ^ The American circus season typically lasted from April to October. The commencement of Cole's 1881 domestic season was delayed until 23 May 1881 due to the return crossing of the Pacific from Australia. Hence the numbers of stands and days for the 1881 home season were somewhat smaller than for 1880.

Table 9

**Capital investment for 'road' shows
Expressed in 2005 Australian dollars**

Vide: Page 242,

Year	Company	Investment	\$A 2005
1855	Browns	£3,000e	122,000
1883	St Leons	£5,000	298,000
1896	Probascos	£3,000	229,000
1912	Bud Atkinsons	£8,300	481,000
1935	Ivan Bros	£40,000	1,682,000
1961	Bullen Bros	£250,000	2,668,319

Sources: Contemporary reports, interviews, author's estimate ('e').

Table 10

Australia's population distribution

Vide: Page 269.

Year	Capital cities	Other urban	Rural areas
1861	20%	19%	61%
1901	32%	26%	42%

Source: Vamplew, 198, p.41.

Table 11

**Capital investment for a 'rail' based circus, Wirth Bros
Expressed in 2005 Australian dollars**

Vide: Page 270.

Year	Company	Investment	\$A 2005
1907	Wirth Bros	£15.000	2,175,508
1948	Wirth Bros	£250,000	5,889, 632

Sources: Referee, 31 Jan, 1907; Anon, 1951.

Table 12

Real wages, Australia, 1861-1901

Vide: Page 271.

Year	Australia
1861e	100
1871	103
1881	117
1891	125
1900	102

Source: Vamplew, 1987, p.160, author's estimate ('e').

Table 13
Economic activity & itinerant shows

Vide: Page 273.

	Pop@	Urban@	Rural@	Rail@	GDP#	Itinerant companies	
		%	%	Kms	\$A 1939	Circus+	Other
1850	0.438m	46	54	0	11.7	2	8
1855				37	50.9	14	25
1860-61	1.149m	39	61	389	63.6	12	38
1865					65.5	14	41
1870-71	1.660m	46	54	1,648	81.7	8	25
1875					118.8	16	23
1880-81	2.244m	49	51	6,420	133.8	16	16
1885					173.3	15	38
1890-91	3.152m	56	44	15,200	206.3	23	52
1895					140.6	21	74
1900-01	3.763m	58	42	20,123	189.1	9	27
1905					224.1	21	61
1910-11	4.428m	60	40	25,726	313.4	12	36
1915					372.4	17	23
1920-21	5.436m	63	37	37,274	576.9	4	7

Sources:

Vamplew, 1987, p.41, 132-33.

St Leon, M, 2005.

Testro, 1971, p.106.

contemporary newspapers.

Notes:

GDP at 1939 price levels.

@ Population & rail data lagged one year behind GDP & company data.

+ Includes circus-style troupes, wild west shows and rodeos.

Table 14
Cooper, Bailey & Co.'s Great International Allied Shows
Composition of train used for South Australian tour, 1877.

Vide: Page 274.

Carriage type	No.
Goods waggons	2
Timber trucks - long	5
Timber trucks - short	9
Waggons - high side	5
Cattle trucks	6
1 st class carriage	1
2 nd class carriage	4
Heavy brake vans	2
Total	34

Source: South Australian Government Railways manifest contained within James A Bailey papers, McCaddon Collection, Princeton University, New Jersey, USA.

Table 15
Major Australian circus 'wagon' shows

Vide: Page 276.

Circus	Year	Wagons	Personnnel	Horses
Eroni Bros (M)	1900	47	80e	150
Lennons (M)	1914	27	26a, 8m	120
Eronis & Soles (M)	1913	>30e	70e	110
Gus St Leons	1912	20	60	55
St Leon Bros	1904	15	30e	50e
Probascos	1899	16e	55A	40
FitzGerald Bros	1894	20	n	140
FitzGerald Bros	1893	18	80	100
Wirth Bros	1888	24	80e	100
St Leons (M)	1883	20	50	100
Ashton's	1873	12	25e	40

Sources: Contemporary Australian newspapers, interviews.

Notes:

a Artists

m Musicians

e Estimate

A All personnel

n no data available

M includes menagerie.

Table 16
Rail-based circuses
Rail costs as a proportion of total operating costs

Vide: Page 277.

Year	Circus	Operating costs	Rail costs	Proportion
		\$A 2005	\$A 2005	%
1877	Cooper, Bailey & Co.	7,669,971	325,168	4.2%
1901	FitzGerald Bros	6,482,107	762,875	11.8%
1907	Wirth Bros	6,033,410	1,619, 117 +	26.8%
1911	Wirth Bros	6,908,327	1,484,465 +	21.5%
1963	Wirth Bros	3,254,630	1,084,877	33.3%

Sources:

James A Bailey Papers, McCaddon Collection, Princeton University, USA

Anon, 1901

Referee, 31 Jan 1907

Anon, 1911

Higham, 1963.

Notes

:

Australian component, annualised, excluding cost of trans-continental shipping.

+ *Annualised transportation costs.*

Table 17
Comparison of Australian and British travelling conditions

Vide: Page 278.

Circus	Gus St Leons	Lord George Sangers
Period	Jan 1912-Apr 1913	Mar 1886-Nov 1886
Touring region	NSW	England & Wales
Population	1,646,734 (1911)	25,974,439 (1881)
Operational period	61 weeks#	39 weeks
Kilometres travelled	8,816	3,914
Number of towns visited	217	192
Average towns per week	3.56	4.92
Average kilometres per week	145	100
Average k'metres between towns	40.6	20.4
Population density per sq km	2.1	173.8

Sources:

Referee, 30 Apr 1913.

Lukens, 1956.

Notes:

69 weeks less 8 weeks estimated period for winter camp, 1912.

Table 18
Comparison of touring patterns (I)
Wagon, rail and motorised circuses

Vide: Page 281.

	St Leons		Wirth Bros		McConvilles	
	Wagon, SA, 1879	km	Rail, NSW, 1916	km	Road, Qld, 1948	km
31-May	Kapunda					
01-Jun			Parramatta		Pittsworth	
02-Jun	Clare	61			Toowoomba	85
03-Jun	Burra Burra	43	Lithgow	98	Toowoomba	
04-Jun	Hallett	33			Toowoomba	
05-Jun	Jamestown	39			Toowoomba	
06-Jun	Laura	40				
07-Jun	Melrose	45	Bathurst	62	Helidon	17
08-Jun			Orange	53	Gatton	18
09-Jun	Port Augusta	84	Wellington	107	Laidley	20
10-Jun			Dubbo	50	Rosewood	30
11-Jun					Ipswich	17
12-Jun	Wilmington	63	Coonamble	154		
13-Jun						
14-Jun	Gladstone	77	Narromine	193	Ipswich	
15-Jun					Booyal	300
16-Jun	Port Pirie	84	Parkes	98	Lowood	225
17-Jun			Forbes	33	Esk	35
18-Jun	Crystal Brook	27			Toogoolawah	16
19-Jun	Redhill	25	Molong	112	Toogoolawah	
20-Jun	Blythe	53				
21-Jun	Snowtown	40	Cowra	97	Bundamba	50
22-Jun			Grenfell	54	Goodna	66
23-Jun	Kadina	55	Young	52	Windsor	6
24-Jun	Kadina				Nundah	5
25-Jun	Walleroo	10			Sandgate	8
26-Jun	Moonta	18			Sandgate	
27-Jun	Moonta		Yass	83		
28-Jun	Moonta		Cootamundra	112	Wynnum	20
29-Jun					Bulimba	4
30-Jun	Kulpara	50	Wagga Wagga	102	Hawthorn	2

Sources: Contemporary Australian newspapers.

Table 19

**Comparison of touring patterns (II)
Wagon, rail and motorised circuses**

Vide: Page 281.

Summary	Wagon	Rail	Motor
Company	St Leons	Wirths	McConvilles
Year	1879	1916	1948
Distance travelled (km)	847	1460	924
Average distance per day (km)	28	49	31
Number of stands	18	16	19
- One night stands	16	16	15
- Two night stands	1	0	3
- Three night stands	1	0	0
- Four night stands	0	0	1
Number of performances	21	16	25
Avg distance between stands (km)	47	91	49

Sources: Contemporary Australian newspapers.

Table 20

Australian itinerant show activity, 1909

Vide: Page 282.

Show type	1909
Circus	10
Pictures, moving & still	8
Concert & musical	7
Theatrical & vaudeville	6
Buckjumping	3
Total	34

Sources: Contemporary Australian newspapers.

DATA

Measurements

Unless stated otherwise, all distances and weights were expressed in metric form. Distances originally expressed in miles were converted into kilometres at the rate of 1 mile = 1.6 kilometres. Weights originally expressed in pounds were converted into kilograms at the rate of 1 pound = 2.2 kilograms.

Currencies

Unless stated otherwise, currency amounts have been expressed in the prevailing Australian denomination, Australian pounds until 1966 and Australian dollars thereafter. Other currencies, principally the pound sterling and the American dollar, were identified with the symbols £Stg and US\$ respectively. British and American currencies were translated into their Australian equivalents in terms of historical rates provided by the Reserve Bank of Australia. The New Zealand pound was translated, where necessary, at parity with the pound sterling.

For the purposes of temporal comparisons (for example, Tables 9 and 16), contemporary Australian currency amounts were expressed in current (2005) dollars (converted from Australian pounds, if pre-1966, at the official rate of two Australian dollars = one Australian pound) using price deflation tables, based on Consumer Price Index data provided by the Reserve Bank of Australia as well as tables presented in Vamplew, R, *Australians: historical statistics*, Sydney: Fairfax, Syme & Weldon Associates, 1987.

MILESTONES

Milestones

Year	Event	Page*
1780	Founding of Astleys Amphitheatre, London.	1
1841	Arrival of Signor Luigi Dalle Case & Troupe.	231
1847	George Croft opens amphitheatre in Moreton Bay [Brisbane].	175
1847	Opening of Radfords Royal Circus, Launceston.	4
1848	Robert Avis Radfords seasons in Hobart Town.	41
1848	John Quinn walks along the forestay of US ship Junior, Hobart Town.	216
1848	Ashton gives first appearance in Radfords Amphitheatre, Hobart Town.	4
1849	Opening of Hayes shortlived amphitheatre, Melbourne.	4
1850	Opening of Royal Australian Equestrian Circus ['Malcoms'], Sydney.	4
1850	Opening of E H Taylors Amphitheatre, Adelaide.	4
1850	Opening of Beaumont & Wallers Zoological Gardens.	336
1851	Arrival of Nobles Olympic Circus in Adelaide from Cape Town.	219
1851	Burtons Circus arrives on goldfields, Turon River, from Maitland.	11
1851	First appearances of Aboriginal infant performers.	55
1852	Arrival of J A Rowes North American Circus in Melbourne.	153
1853	First use of tents to accommodate circus performance.	169
1853	Burtons Circus travels overland from Sydney to Port Phillip.	192
1854	Opening of Astleys Amphitheatre, Melbourne.	231
1855	Opening of Ashtons Amphitheatre, formerly Malcoms, Sydney.	332
1855	William Browns Roman Amphitheatre & Australian Coliseum.	113
1859	First colonial exhibition of a trapeze act by The Wieland Troupe.	252
1865	Appearance of St Leon Troupe at Theatre Royal, Melbourne.	32
1866	Billy Jones walks tightrope from Foleys Circus to Theatre Royal, Hobart.	42
1867	Arrival of first Japanese acrobatic troupes.	217
1869	First visit of a circus to Western Australia, Stebbings Intercolonial.	181
1870	Bird & Taylors Great American Circus organised, Sydney.	142
1873	Adelaide Hippodrome; first visit of Chiarinis Royal Italian Circus.	161
1873	Partnership of Burton & Taylors Grand United Circus Company.	363
1874	First visit of Blondin, tightrope walker.	233
1875	Founding of St Leons Royal Victoria Circus.	247
1876	First visit of Wilsons San Francisco Palace Circus.	273
1876	First visit of Cooper, Bailey & Co.'s Circus, from U S A.	161
1877	Harry L'Estrange walks tightrope across Middle Harbour, Sydney.	233
1878	Burtons Great Australian Circus tours New Zealand.	377
1880	Insolvency of Henry Burton, sale of Burtons Circus to W & J Woodyear.	46
1880	W W Coles Concorporated Shows commence Australasian tour.	153
1882	Wirth Bros Circus commences travels.	243
1885	St Leons Royal Palace Circus tours New Zealand.	113
1888	Wirths Circus visits New Caledonia.	275

Milestones

1888	Wirths Circus commits to rail travel.	275
1889	Insolvency of Matthew St Leon.	265
1889	Death of James Henry Ashton at Gladstone, Queensland	145
1890	Wirth Bros Circus engages Wild West Show from U S A.	163
1890	First visit of Harmstons Circus, from San Francisco.	157
1891	Visit of Sells Bros Circus, from U S A.	136
1893	Departure of Wirth Bros Circus on extended international tour.	131
1893	Organisation of Eroni Bros Circus by family of W G Perry.	33
1893	Archduke Ferdinand d'Este sees FitzGerald Bros Circus in Sydney.	25
1894	Birth of May Zinga - later known as May Wirth - at Bundaberg, Qld.	126
1895	Engagement of FitzGeralds New London Company.	276
1895	Wirths Pacific Circus tours S E Asia [Harry Wirth, proprietor].	377
1896	Founding of Probascos Circus, Dunedin.	241
1896	Death of C O Peart, high diver in FitzGerald's Circus, Sydney.	92
1897	First visit of Flying Jordans Circus & Carnival, from U S A.	352
1896	Wirths Australian Circus tours England.	132
1899	Liquidation of Probascos Circus, Bega.	248
1900	Return of Wirth Bros Circus to Australia.	133
1900	Death of Henry Burton at Melbourne Dramatic Home	264
1902	FitzGerald Bros Circus divided into two companies.	203
1903	Death of Matthew St Leon, circus proprietor.	146
1906	Deaths of Dan & Tom FitzGerald, circus proprietors.	229
1906	Visit of Bostock & Wombells Circus, Menagerie & Vaudeville Show.	209
1906	Partnership between James Ashton & Walter St Leon circuses.	58
1908	Circuses entertain sailors of the US Great White Fleet at Albany W A	195
1909	Founding of Gus St Leons Great United Circus, Liverpool.	143
1909	Formation of Showmens Association of Australia.	17
1910	Founding of Colleanos Circus, near Warialda, N S W.	371
1911	Ashtons Circus preceded by agent, Mr Jack, in his own motor vehicle.	184
1912	US debut of May Wirth, Australian rider, Barnum & Bailey, New York.	126
1912	Bud Atkinsons American Circus & Wild West Show.	184
1914	Founding of Perry Bros Circus by James Perry	244
1915	Australian tour of May Wirth & Troupe for Wirth Bros Circus.	127
1916	Founding of Sole Bros Circus.	245
1917	Imposition of Amusement Tax by Commonwealth Government	254
1919	Wirth Bros Circus crosses Nullarbor Plain by rail.	181
1920	Holden Bros Circus adopts electric lighting.	177
1923	Closure of Colleanos Circus.	128
1923	Holden Bros Circus, first circus to motorise.	278
1923	Founding of Bullen Bros Circus.	353
1923	Bill Sole and Charles Eroni, circus proprietors, killed at Blayney, N S W.	93
1923	Working agreement between Wirth and Ringling circuses formalised	235

Milestones

1925	Con Colleano 'center ring' star in Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey.	129
1925	George Wirth publishes autobiography.	xxiii
1926	Departure of Sole Bros Circus for three year tour of southern Africa.	352
1933	Philip Wirth publishes autobiography.	xxiii
1934	West's Circus crosses Nullarbor Plain by horsedrawn wagons.	187
1936	Ivan Bros Circus tours.	249
1937	Death of Philip Wirth.	265
1941	Death of George Wirth.	265
1946	Founding of Silvers Circus.	247
1956	Closure of Silvers Circus.	380
1960	Con Colleano gives final performance in Honolulu.	130
1963	Closure of Wirth Bros Circus.	381`
1964	First Australian tour of Great Moscow Circus.	230
1969	Closure of Bullen Bros Circus at Parramatta, N S W.	382
1973	Launch of New Circus.	384
1973	Death of Con Colleano, Miami, U S A.	130
1973	Philip Petit walks tightrope between pylons of Sydney Harbour Bridge.	234
1974	Death of Alfred Percival Bullen.	147
1978	Launch of Circus Oz, Melbourne.	138
1978	Death of May Wirth, Sarasota, U S A.	128
1979	Founding of Flying Fruit Fly Circus.	387
1984	Appearance of Circus Oz at Los Angeles Olympic Arts Festival.	386
1990	Circus Summit, national circus conference, Melbourne.	355
1997	Sesqui-centenary of Australian circus.	393
2000	Foundation of National Institute of Circus Arts, Melbourne.	392

* *These are sample page references. Other references may appear on other pages.*

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