



Cambridge Parade Manly Circa 1920

Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc

"Our aim is to gather and record local history before it is lost."

www.wmhs.org.au

ABN 49 071 835 845



NEWSLETTER

September 2022

Issue. No. 145

September General Meeting

**THURSDAY 15 SEPTEMBER
2022**

7.00pm for 7.15pm start

Wynnum Ambulance Auditorium

Corner Tingal Road / Cedar Street

**(Full Covid restrictions apply as this is a
live Ambulance Centre)**

Member

Chris Seymour
will tell us about the

**'Rebuilding Japanese War Planes
in Wartime Brisbane'**



Raffle

Lucky Door

Refreshments

Gold Coin Donation

Full vaccination and masks please, as the
Ambulance Officers have direct contact with the
local hospitals.



From 1940, Eagle Farm Aerodrome was part of a RAAF Elementary Flying Training School providing airmen for the defence of Britain.

In 1941 Prime Minister Curtin announced a change in foreign policy in that Australia was now looking to America to shape a plan. The RAAF was placed under the control of General Douglas MacArthur in 1942.

WWII Hanger No. 7, located at 116 Lamington Avenue, Eagle Farm is the only remaining hangar of the hangars built in and around the previous Eagle Farm Aerodrome by the Americans in 1942. The hangar, the last surviving type of its kind, housed the Allied Technical Air Intelligence Unit. The Hangar is an example of a timber truss igloo structure which was lightweight, could be erected quickly and was low in cost.

The Unit examined, reconstructed and simulated combat trials on captured Japanese aircraft. The information gained was used to develop combat techniques to counter the Japanese in the S W Pacific area.

The hangar site is adjacent to the site of the former "Eagle Farm Women's Prison and Factory", which was used between 1830 to 1839, before free settlement, to house the female convicts away from Moreton Bay Penal Settlement (later named Brisbane Town). By 1837 all female prisoners in Brisbane were moved to Eagle Farm.

Now we hand over to Chris

Located in the “Old School Building” at Room1.08, 105 Florence Street, Wynnum
Open Monday to Friday 10.00am to Noon or by appointment. 0407 293 177)

Cycling History

Case Scholtes, known as “The Fox” contacted the Society recently to find out if we held any information on local cycling Clubs. Case is collecting all the information he can to compile into a book - and we are promised a copy.

Our contribution came from the 1940’s. Here are John Harper and Ron Hamlet who belonged to the ‘Waterloo Bay Wheelers’.



Here are a group, the photo provided by the late Lloyd Kelk (Senior) many years ago - “The Cycling Club of Wynnum”, in the early 1920’s.

Eric Crouch is on the left bike and Sid Crouch, wearing a striped shirt, is on the right bike.

Moravian Missionaries

A lady came into the resource room recently, asking where she could locate the Moravian Missionaries.

The Moravian Church, also known as the Church of the United Brethren, originated in Pennsylvania founded in 1708. A protestant church with close ties to Methodism.. In 1849, the first missionaries were sent to Australia and the first mission was set up at Lake Boga, Swan Hill. The missionaries came to Brisbane in 1875.

Please does anybody have any knowledge of the Moravian Missionaries and their presence in this district?

WHERE AM I? September 2022



Till Next time.

Jill

WHERE WAS I? August 2022

“Cooroona”

2311 Wynnum Road
Wynnum.



Hardwood timber building with a terracotta tiled roof.

Stands on Portion 80 of 63 acres, proclaimed as Lot 22 in August 1862 by James Warner. Land sold in November 1862 to group of Brisbane businessmen as an investment. Then passed through 4 sales to 1890 when 2 acres 24 perch were sold to the Railway Department for the railway line from Brisbane to Cleveland to come through Wynnum. 40 acres went into housing development and in 1913, 20 acres were sold to John William Greene.

The Greene family were building contractors, both in Wynnum and Brisbane from the early 1900s. “Cooroona” was well built by John William Green, probably

assisted by his brother Sam as father John Iley Green had died in an accident in 1905. John William Green enlisted in 1915 to fight in WW1 and returned wounded in 1918 to convalescence in his home, “Cooroona”. In 1921 John was elected to Wynnum Town Council and served as Mayor from 1921 until 1925, when Wynnum was amalgamated into the Greater Brisbane Authority. During his time as Mayor, Wynnum was a popular seaside township. The railway was here. Electricity and running tap water had arrived. Roads were improving and houses and bridges built. There were Picture Theatres and bathing facilities.

John’s wife, Phyllis Mary Fairfax Greene, was a very popular Lady Mayoress of Wynnum having a very active public role as well as raising three children. Among her many activities, she founded the local Country Women’s Association and was known for maintaining a very dignified and comfortable home, that welcomed visitors.

John was President of the Master Builder’s Association in 1922. In 1930 he was nominated to be Lord Mayor of the recently former Greater Brisbane and served from 1931 to 1934 during the worst years of the Great Depression. Relief work on the walling of the foreshores, the Great Wall at Manly and the Wading Pool provided employment for some of the local residents at that time.

In 1933 the Wynnum Reserve was renamed Greene Park in honour of the family’s contribution to the development of Wynnum. Sam, John’s brother represented the Wynnum Ward on the Brisbane City Council from 1937 to 1940. And, of course, the Greene sisters ran the Moreton Bay Girls’ High School, later to become Moreton Bay College.

John continued to live at Cooroona and transferred 1½ acres of his 20 acres, on which Woodlands stood, to his sisters in 1946. The two Greene houses were the only two houses on that 20 acre block of land. Throughout the 1950s, John subdivided and sold more of his between the two houses, “Woodlands” and “Cooroona”.

John died on 7 October 1959, amidst the Brisbane Centenary celebrations. 14 acres of land passed to his wife but she returned to NSW. Most of this land was resumed in 1960 for the building of Wynnum North State High School.

In August 1961 “Cooroona” was sold to R and B Logan, repainted and refitted to be converted into a modern and well appointed convalescent home. Sister Betty Logan ran the Home, a well-qualified, double certified sister from Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney, and with experience in Tasmania, UK and USA.

In 1998 a syndicate of long-time Aged Care operators, Fleming Health Services P/L, who already operated several nursing homes, bought the Home as a going concern for £1.18m.

In 2006, when new regulations were enforced, to raise the standards of care for aged, the owners, Drs Deanna and John Isoardi could not afford to upgrade and so they put up the building and grounds for sale.

Purchaser, Ohara Page, paid £1.2m in 2008, with the desire to use the home for “persons less fortunate than me”. She had planned to establish a methadone clinic for indigenous women and children. This idea was strongly opposed by the local community and did not eventuate. Ohara sensed something strange about her house, believing the building to be full of ghosts. Dry taps dripped, doors slammed, voices were heard, music played. So in 2009 she asked Amanda Richardson to bring her five-strong team of Qld Para-normal Investigators (QPI) for a special Halloween Investigation. The QPI team used thermal imaging cameras, electro magnetic field detectors, voice recorders and a video camera. Two of the team sensed a woman in a wheelchair. One room induced headaches in the team. I believe Ohara Page is still in residence, The grounds are now very run down. The former home is still there but in a very untidy and dilapidated state. Ohara is still blaming the Council for applying heritage listing to the house. At one stage she offered the house to the Society as she herself could do nothing with it. Jill.

‘Dreamworld of the 1880s’ – The Queensport Aquarium, Hemmant.

The first amusement park in Queensland.

While trying to explain the changes seen in marine organisms between different generations, Gerard Krefft, in the *New South Wales Advertiser* of 15 May 1875, commented that, “. . . there was no locality on the face of the globe as favourable as Port Jackson for aquatic studies . . . but we have no public aquarium.”

Sir Henry Parkes opened The Royal Aquarium at Fletcher’s Cove, Bondi on Wednesday 28 September 1887. The design of the park, costing £30,000, was very much based on the Royal Aquarium in Brighton, England which opened in 1872.

Mr Charles Anderson, the originator, and manager, of the Royal Bondi Aquarium company, travelled to Brisbane in March 1889 to search for a suitable location for an aquarium in Queensland. Sandgate was considered. However, eleven acres of land were purchased in Hemmant Reserve, on the bank of the river. A partnership was set up of John Dunmore Campbell, Robert Philip, John Luckmann, Henry Hardwicke and Charles Anderson from Sydney and construction of the Queensport Aquarium began.

In the local press, the description of the building, the grounds and the amusements to come, read very much like the former original press reports for the Bondi Aquarium in Sydney. A large skate rink, a double storied pavilion, a switchback railway, aquarium tanks, and grottos. There would be first class lawn tennis, cricket, and other grounds. Amusements, such as concerts and other select forms of entertainment, would be provided in the evenings, in the upper floor of the pavilion. The lower floor, would house six aquarium tanks around the walls. Surrounding the pavilion, amusements would abound: Merry-go-Rounds, a Switchback Railway, a seal tank and picnic areas, set amongst landscaped gardens with flowers. Wild animals would live there too, tigers, seals and baboons.

In 1888, Mr Charles Higgins, a “large powerful man” owned a menagerie at Toombul where he bred tigers. He moved his menagerie into Brisbane Town and set up at the corner of George and Turbot Streets. He would be seen walking down Queen Street carrying a couple of tiger cubs. One day there was a commotion when large tiger “Jimmy” escaped from his cage and mauled the attendant. Local residents were not happy and demanded the menagerie be sold. Monty Browne, a Theatrical Agent purchased the animals for the Bondi Aquarium. But after a few months the animals were still in Queensland and then relocated to Queensport Aquarium – five tigers, a chetah, a panther, five dingoes, several monkeys and a number of snakes.

Roads were rough, bridges were few, so the main access to this new amusement park was by boat. The Company purchased three steamers, the *SS Alice*, the *SS Natone* and the *SS Woolwich*, to transport the crowds from Campbell’s Wharf in the city. The new single railway track to Cleveland was completed by the end of 1889 with Hemmant Station being fairly close by.

Public opening day was on Saturday 7 August 1889. Massive crowds surged onto the steamer *SS Natone* in Brisbane Town. In fact, in the chaos, two persons fell off the Wharf into the Brisbane River.

Another catastrophe occurred in April 1891. An elderly man, Stephen Popham, was riding on the switchback railway. He over balanced and fell off as the carriage was ascending an incline. He died half an hour later.

But the Queensport Aquarium was a great success, a new phenomenon never experienced before in Brisbane and the crowds continued to visit in their thousands. There were twilight river cruises. The Aquarium had an electricity supply by the end of 1889 so, when lit up in the evenings, the amusement park presented a spectacular sight.

1891 was a year of a great flood. Water from the Brisbane River backed up in Aquarium Passage and many residents of Hemmant moved to higher



Floods 1883

ground. The Aquarium was flooded, fences were swept away, animals escaped and the landscaped gardens were devastated.

In 1892, during a tremendous storm, high winds blew the switchback railway into the river.

Another flood impacted the site in 1893. The central two-story pavilion did survive but not much else. The 1890s were depression years and Queensport Aquarium could not rise to its former glory. The Pavilion Hall was used for dances, meetings and concerts until 1901. But the original Company became insolvent.



This site, along with others, was considered for a new Plague Hospital in 1900, but then rejected as being considered too close to the meat works.

In March 1901, this notice appeared in the Press, advising an auction sale:

To Page 5

From Page 4

“A large building, *The Aquarium Pavilion*, . . . built of Oregon pine and hardwood, roofed with best galvanized iron. Cost £2,000 to build. By order of the Mortgagees.”



Today, there is a light industrial building on the former site of the Queensport Aquarium in Aquarium Avenue, Hemmant.

The Royal Aquarium at Bondi burnt down in 1891 but rebuilt in the same year. The site became ‘Wonderland City’ in 1906.

Fountain. Aquarium Ruins 1917

Article compiled using information from National Library of Australia “Trove” database.

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Enter: *Wynnum Manly Historical Society Facebook* into Google.

There is a new picture and story every day!

BATHING BOXES



Foot of Alkoomie Street Wynnum. 1935

By 1917 Private Bathing Boxes were very much in vogue and could remain on the foreshore for a fee of 10/- per annum.

When the Wading Pool opened in 1933, Mr J Webb paid £10 per annum to manage the hire of dressing boxes.

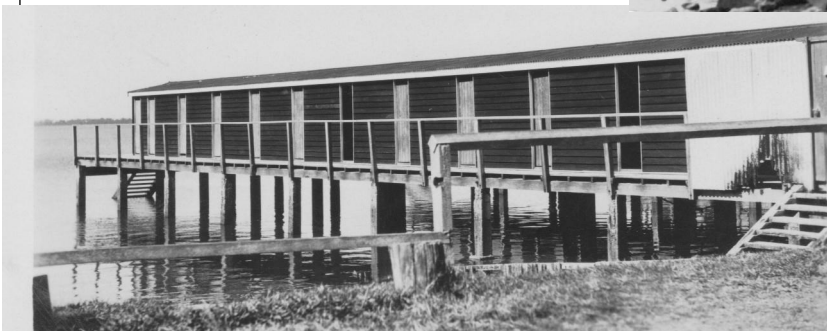
Manly. Foot of Falcon Street 1950s.

In February 1890, George Gibbs, Proprietor of the Waterloo Bay Hotel was given permission to build a Private Bathing House at the foot of Mary (Berrima) Street, by the Kianawah Divisional Board. In about 1915, a bathing box was constructed for the Nuns of Mt Carmel Convent, Bay Terrace. This Box was known as the “Nuns Bathing Box”, and was reached from the Esplanade by a jetty, with a locked entrance . A fenced swimming enclosure was used.



Lota 1935

In the 1930/1940s Bathing Boxes were very much in vogue. But in the 1950s Local Councils stopped the building of the Boxes - “They spoil the look of the beach and look like glorified public conveniences.”



Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes



Members of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes are known as "Bufs", and the order is one of the oldest fraternal organizations in United Kingdom. The members aid each other, their families and dependants of the families of "Bufs".

The order originated in the 1700s, as an actors' social club, at the Harp Tavern, Great Russell Street, London. The group was established by actors and hands working at Drury Lane Theatre. Members of the group were called the "Lushingtons", and the club became very popular.

When actors toured the country theatrical circuits, they opened up Buffalo Clubs in regional towns. The name "Buffaloes" came from a popular song of the time "We'll chase the buffalo". Within 50 years the club became a full-

blown fraternal order, with rules, rituals and degrees.

In England, in the 1800s, secret societies were looked on as being potentially dangerous. The "Seditious and Riotous Assembly Act" was introduced in the 1840s. So as to comply with the new Act, "Loyal" was added the name – the "Loyal Order of Buffaloes". This soon was changed, by word of mouth, to Royal Order of Buffaloes".

The term "Antediluvian" was introduced in the 1850's. A "diluvium" is a flood. "Ante" means before. So the question is, "Before which flood?"

The answer is the Great Flood that Noah survived in his ark.

Antediluvian times are covered in the first six chapters of Genesis from when Adam ate the apple until Noah built his ark. The term "antediluvian" was in common usage until Victorian times being used to refer to ancient and murky times, anything of great age and outmoded - really, really, old.

The word "antediluvian" seemingly had a better ring than the word "ancient". Early Buff members were mainly actors and, as the desires of mankind to relieve poverty had been around since the days of the Pharaohs in ancient Egypt, the actors chose the word "antediluvian" to indicate the great age of the order, to the unenlightened public.

In 1866 a Grand Lodge was set up to control the order, set the laws, establish procedures and manage administration. The basic rules stated that members were to be over 18 years and no politics, religion or gambling was allowed at meetings

The "Royal Warrant Act" was introduced in England in the early 1900's. The Buffaloes were already using the term "Royal" in their title, so their name was accepted, without application, on condition that the member Bufs did not perform any act to disgrace the name. Thus the Order has no Royal Charter document as one was never issued.

The Rule Book, Manual of Instruction and Ceremonial Lectures are reviewed and issued from the Headquarters, Grand Lodge of England located at Grove House, Harrogate, in Yorkshire, England. The building was built in 1752 was a coaching inn situated between London and York. The Bufs purchased the building in 1926 to house orphans, every Buff contributing one half penny towards the purchase. Orphans were cared for at Grove House until 1947 when their care became a responsibility of the State.

Any information about Australian Bufs is harder to find. The first Lodge seems to have been founded 1896 at Kelmscott in Western Australia. There are lodges in South Australia and Victoria.

In Queensland the first convention was held in 1930 in the Buffalo Hall in Ann Street, Brisbane. A lodge at Zillmere is listed on the Net, and we have a document from the Capalaba Lodge. But there is no sign of any information about the Wynnum Lodge, founded in 1962. The order is said to be struggling to survive in today's competitive world. Does anybody know a Wynnum "Buff" who could assist with more information?

Vale Ian Kennedy

We are sad to announce the passing of Ian last Friday, 2nd September 2022. Ian joined the Society in 1997 and was an active member, entertaining us with his talks, often based on his experiences in his younger days. He had a family of sisters and their holidays in Redcliffe were quite hilarious. He loved the history of houses especially in East Brisbane, where he grew up, and would go back and visit them years later.

Ian was known as the Wednesday Volunteer in the Resource Room. He was there from our opening in February 2003 until just before last Christmas, every fortnight for 19 years. Ian will be sadly missed by all members.

What's On

Date	Venue	Event	Booking
Saturday 24 September 2022 9.15am - 5pm	Zoom presentation. Genealogical Society of Qld	"Life in Victorian Britain"	By Sept 10 - \$50 (\$65) After wards \$60 (\$75) 3349 6072 (GSQ)
Thursday 29 September 2022 10 - 11am Free	Wynnum Public Library 145 Florence Street, Wynnum	"History of Oyster Fishing in Moreton Bay" Dr Jodi Crawley	Book Wynnum Library 3403 2199
Frid/Sat/Sun 7 - 9 October 2022	Redlands Museum 60 Smith Street Cleveland	Small Museums Conference "Making my Museum Memorable"	'Try' booking. Redlands Museum: Ph: 32863494
Now till 9th October 2022 10 - 3pm Free	Redcliffe Museum 75 Anzac Ave Redcliffe	"It's Personal" Exploring identity thro' appearance. Everyday men and women apply lotions, groom their hair to present themselves to the world. How technology, social atti- tudes and politics have shaped the products we use.	Free Exhibition. 3480 6700
Fri/Sat/Sun 21 - 23 October 2022	Redcliffe Dolphins RL Club Cnr Klingner/Ashmole Streets. Redcliffe	."Sands of Time" Local and Family History Conference	c/o Redcliffe Historical Society For full details go to: sandsoftime.org.au
Now till Sunday 6 November 2022	Museum of Brisbane Level 3 City Hall 64 Adelaide Street, City	"World of Wonder" Margaret McKenney, Jewelry Designer. A celebration of the World's rarest gems.	ino@museumofbrisbane. com.au \$12
Now till 22 Jan 2023 10 - 5pm Free	Gallery Level 1 Qld State Library Stanley Place South Brisbane	"Queensland to a T" Qld Culture, 1950 - 2016, as re- flected in the humble tea towel."	sql.qld.gov.au

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

History of Music in Wynnum Manly 1900 - 1997	Betty Nock	\$ 5
History of Arts in the Wynnum Manly Area 1900 - 2003	Betty Nock	\$ 5
Bayside Biographies. People from Wynnum Manly. 1900 -2007	Betty Nock	\$ 5
Mangroves to Moorings re-visited	Myrtle Beitz	\$35
Church Buildings of Wynnum Manly and Lota	Coupland and Greenhill	\$10
Early Shipping in Moreton Bay 1846 - 1859	Davenport and Mottram	\$ 5

Available at the
Resource Room
Weekdays 10am -Noon
Email:
jillg01@tpg.com.au

Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc

Minutes of General Meeting held in Ambulance Auditorium, Tingal Road
on Thursday 18 August 2022

Meeting opened at 7.20pm. Covid regulations were followed. – spacing of chairs.

There were 24 members present, 1 apology and 2 visitors, Daryn Sibley and Father Michael Twigg.

Opening Comments:

Jill Greenhill took the Chair in the absence of President, Jan Parnell.

Wallis Vinson received her Society name badge.

As Peter Ludlow wished to return home promptly as his wife was unwell, he commenced the meeting with his talk on Peel Island. We were provided with an excellent account, with details of the happenings from the times when arriving migrants were quarantined on the island, through the days of the Leprosarium to the present day. Unfortunately, the group “Friends of Peel Island” formed to encourage the preservation of the buildings, has closed so the future of the island is bleak. Today, with no jetties visitors are mainly from the boating fraternity, anchoring in the water of Horse Shoe Bay. Thank you Peter.

After a short break the meeting continued.

Previous Minutes: (Jill)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 21 July were accepted by Ellen Coupland, seconded by Geraint Gregory.

Correspondence:

Lena presented the correspondence report for July. The correspondence was accepted and endorsed at the committee meeting held on Thursday 4 August 2022.

Treasurer’s Report (Geraint Gregory) 1 – 31 July 2022

BOQ Ac/Nos. 2019708 / 21781280

OPENING Balance on 1 July 2022 \$29,057.92

Income \$ 145.54

Expenditure \$ 150.71

CLOSING Balance on 30 July 2022 **\$29,057.92**

which comprises: *Everyday Account*: \$7,103.08 and *Websaver Account* \$21,954.84

Resource Centre: (Jill)

The house in question “Where am I”, was “Woodlands, 2333 Wynnum Road, Wynnum. The house was built in 1911 by the Greene brothers, John William and Sam for the Hon Magnus Jensen. The Jensen family needed to be nearer to Brisbane so the Greene family purchased the house for their widowed mother and unmarried sisters. The property remained with the family until the 1970s. The extensive grounds were gifted by the Greene family to Church Missions and the Congregational Church and used for charitable residential developments.

General Business: There was no general business.

Raffle: The raffle, donated by Lena McCreadie was won by Freda Wegner.

The Lucky Door prize (\$5) was won by Carole Astill.

Meeting closed 8.35pm and members were invited to partake of refreshments provided and served by Ellen Coupland and Lena McCreadie.

A/President: Jill Greenhill

Minute Secretary: Jill Greenhill

We thank our Patrons for their ongoing encouragement and support
Peter Cumming and Joan Pease

We thank our sponsor - Cartridge World, Tingal Road, Wynnum.

Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc

Postal Address: 51 Drayton Terrace, Wynnum Qld 4178.

Email: secretary@wmhs.org.au Secretary: 0431 332 207 or 3393 4393

Committee: Jan Parnell, Lena McCreadie, Kathy Golinski, Myrtle Beitz, Ellen Coupland, Mitch Parsons, Chiharu Tsurutani.

Meetings: 7.00pm for 7.15pm. 3rd Thursday of the Month (except December)
in Queensland Ambulance Auditorium, Cnr Tingal Road and Bay Terrace Wynnum

Resource Centre: Room 1.08, 105 Florence Street, Wynnum Q 4178

Open Weekdays 10am - Noon (Excl. Public Holidays)

Librarian: Jill Greenhill 0407 293 177