

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

## April 2023

## Issue. No. 150

### April General Meeting

### THURSDAY

### 20 APRIL 2023

7.00pm for 7.15pm start

Wynnum Ambulance Auditorium

Corner Tingal Road / Cedar Street

### "My Grandmother Ettie"



153 Carlton Terrace Manly c. 1939  
Norman, Olive, Ettie, Nora  
Isabella, Ethel with cat, and Betty.

Remembered by  
Grand daughter  
**Pattie Brown**

Raffle  
Lucky Door  
Refreshments  
Gold Coin Donation

### The Perch is Back.

Very many thanks to the Rotary Club of Wynnum Manly who re-erected the perch at low tide during the morning of Sunday 2 April 2023.



In 1922 a man named Noel Balgue arrived in the Wynnum area and applied to the Wynnum Town Council to build a slip for his 22ft boat "Lizzie".

He positioned the boat in the slip at high tide and would work, cleaning the hull free of barnacles and growth, as the tide dropped ready for painting.

The last re-build was in 2012 by the Society with the help again of the Rotarians.

We welcome the Committee for 2023/24

President: Lucy Laakso  
Secretary: Lena McCreadie  
Treasurer: Geraint Gregory  
Librarian: Jill Greenhill  
Speakers: Myrtle Beitz  
Welfare: Ellen Coupland  
Technology: Chris Seymour

Helpers:

Jan Aplin: Raffle ticket sales.  
All those members who assist after meetings.  
Volunteers at Resource Centre.

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)

## Margaret Marr Home

We recently received a visit from gentleman and his wife who wished to see any records that we held of the history of Margaret Marr home for boys, located in Tingal Road, Wynnum North.

The home was opened in 1924 on 171 acres of land donated by Mr John Fyfe Marr in memory of his late wife Margaret. The home accommodated boys over 9 years of age who needed care.

When asked of his association with the home, our visitor said he had lived there in the 1940s. His mother was widowed and obtained a post as Nurse/Carer for the boys in the home. His mother had her own quarters but he

lived with the boys and slept in the annex that was added to the east side of the building. After four years, his mother found a new post, so he then went to live with his grandparents.



## Recent Gifts

### The late Lily Viola Owen Winchester



Viola was the Principal of Moreton Bay College from 1965 to 1979.

She was born in Fortitude Valley in 1907 to Nicholas and Lily Ann McCosker (nee Mallet). Nicholas was a school teacher, so Viola moved many times during her childhood, whenever her father was transferred to a different school.

Viola gained an Arts degree from the University of Queensland in 1929. She taught in Warwick, then in Perth and finally spent many years in Sydney before returning to Redcliffe, Queensland in 1955 to live with her ageing parents.

Moreton Bay College gained a Maths teacher in 1955. Viola travelled daily from, and back to Redcliffe, by bus, train and tram. She reluctantly became Principal of the school in 1965, when the school was experiencing severe financial difficulties.

Thank you to former member Alan Lining for his writing of the account.

Read the full story in the Resource Room!

## Redlands Cycling and Multi Sport Club Inc.

Case Scholtes, “The Fox”, contacted the Society about 2 years ago whilst his collecting of information about the local cycling scene.

The result, a 50-page book has been emailed to us this month, “to add to our collection”, by Case.

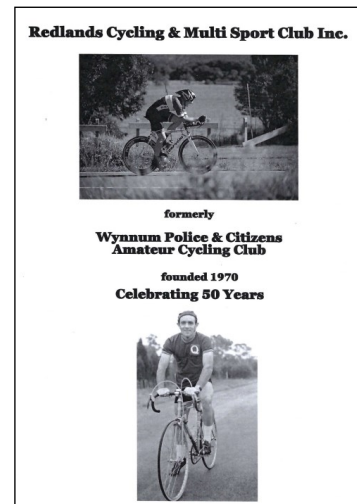
The document is remaining live so that achievements, interesting events and experiences can be added.

Case hopes that our members will read and enjoy the story and be inspired by those early pioneers.

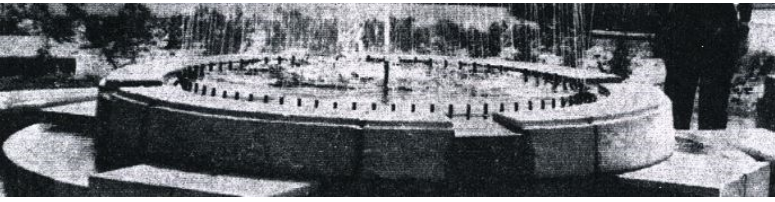
If anybody has any information about the early cyclists in Wynnum prior to 1970 please let me know so that we can add to the great effort.

Till next time,

Jill



## WHERE WAS I? March 2023



This photo shows the fountain on the Corner House Roundabout, Manly West, where Preston Road (East and West), Wondall Road, Worthington Street and West Avenue all meet.

The story starts in the City of Brisbane.

The “new” City Hall was built between 1920 and 1930. The front entrance faced Albert Street but was well above street level. So one approached the main entrance to the City Hall up a steep flight of granite steps from Albert Street.

Two fountains were planned in 1939 to enhance the entrance to the City Hall. Work was interrupted by WW11 and the fountains were not constructed until 1949.

In 1967 Albert Street, in front of the City Hall was closed to traffic between Adelaide and Ann Streets for a large underground car park planned to lie beneath a new City Square. The square was to be at the level of the entrance to the City Hall. The two fountains in Albert Street were removed and a new larger central fountain built in the new elevated Square outside the entrance to the City Hall. This new King George Square was officially opened in 1975.



Councilor George Clayton, was the local Councilor for Wynnum Manly at this time, (and my husband’s uncle). George procured one of the two fountains, for removal to his electorate, to be reconstructed on the roundabout at the Corner House.

When first installed the fountain was operational. Detergent, put into the water, annoyed motorists. Now the former pond surrounding the fountain is a raised ornamental garden bed.

Quote from Brisbane City Council Heritage Section:

“The removal of the fountain from the formal surroundings of the City Hall, the statue of King George V on a horse, the 2 flanking lions and the 2 shallow fountains, has reduced the significance of the fountain. Now, located on a busy traffic island devoid of pedestrian traffic, and devoid of its previous formal setting, the remains of the fountain are isolated and unappreciated. However, the craftsmanship is evident in the sandstone and porphyry stonework.

In 2022, lines of small lights were bound around the trunks of the Palm trees surrounding the gardens.

## WHERE AM I? April 2023



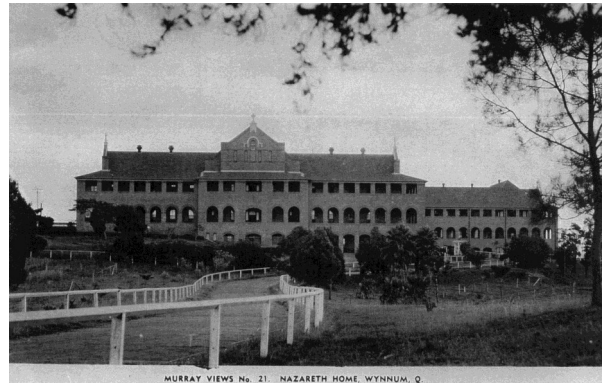
Till next Time

Jill.



Here is the summary of the presentation given to the Society by the speaker, Tess Rowley at the Society's meeting, held on Thursday 16 March 2023, kindly written by Lucy Laakso, our new President.

“At our March 2023 meeting, we welcomed guest presenter **Tess Rowley**. Tess is an accomplished author and she spoke to us about her 2022 publication: **‘Remembering Nazareth House: God and the Devil Wore the Same Robes’**. The book reflects on the experiences of girls living at the Nazareth House orphanage in the 1940s and 1950s.



Briefly, Nazareth House sits atop the rise at Wynnum North. The land was purchased in 1918, with the foundation stone blessed and the building completed in 1924. The orphanage operated from around 1923 to around 1982.

“Murray Views No.21” was printed in 1926

Tess opened her presentation with context: she had written the book over a 25 year period and, during that period, our Society had provided various means of support; for example, many of the photos shown during her presentation had been provided by our Society. Tess's professional background was in child safety.

Like many others, one of the former residents had suffered abuse from infancy to her late teens. It was Tess to whom she first disclosed the abuse. Friendships among the girls had not been encouraged at the institution but now – some years later – the survivor contacted 15 other former residents. For the first time since leaving Nazareth House, they gathered as a group and they disclosed their experiences to each other and to Tess. At the end of the remarkable session, the survivors (some of whom could not read/write) asked Tess to write a book about their experiences. And so it began.

Tess explained that, during the 25 years, she had written four different versions of the book in an effort to get it right. The book is what Tess called a ‘speculative memoir’ – it imagines how the women felt at the time. The women approved Tess taking this approach.

As mentioned, the book takes the reader through the experiences of the girls in the 1940s and 1950s. The girls worked extremely hard; their role within the orphanage was to support the operation of the aged care facility at Nazareth House at that time. (Nazareth House is an aged care home today.)



1948 Class Children with teacher, Mary Dawn Bowden.

Thank you to Tess for honouring the girls and women of Nazareth House and thank you for presenting to our Society.

Important note: if you or anyone you know needs help, call Lifeline on 13 11 14.

Until next time... “

And thank you Lucy for this interesting and informative report. There is a copy of Tess's book in the Resource Room

## 118 (Mary) Berrima Street, Wynnum



Bernadette contacted us last year for information about the house that stood at 118 Berrima Street, which they had purchased and recently moved to a site in Dalveen, near Stanthorpe.

One of our late members, Carmel Henderson, lived in that house.

The house is now proudly standing in Dalveen, 10 km north of Stanthorpe. Bernadette sent these photos this week, and has invited anybody passing to contact her, if they would like to see the former Wynnum house.

### The house, now stands at Dalveen, near Stanthorpe.

The verandah has been opened up to reveal the typical design of a Queenslander, known as a Bungalow with one protruding gable, built between 1900 and 1920. Some other external features include:

Small hipped roof

Front verandah only

Verandah under main house roof

Main Bedroom usually under gable

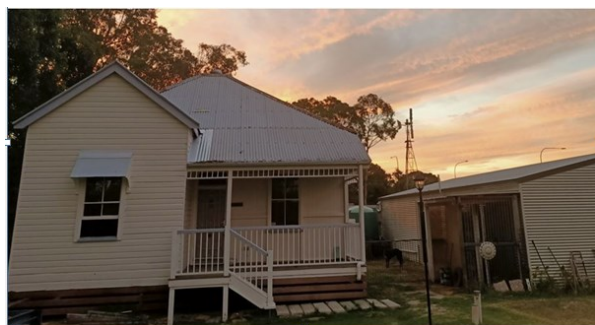
Sash windows (Casement introduced in 1916)



Inside the house



An evening view.



Thank you Bernadette.

“The Lost Woman of Innamincka”  
Summary of a story written by Isabella Curtin  
“TRUTH” NEWSPAPER HEADLINES  
“Mother, Six Children Rescued from Perilous Life”  
“Queensland Government acts in grim drama”  
“Did father stager off to unknown death?”  
(*Brisbane Truth 16 May 1937*)

Henrietta (Ettie) parents, Joseph Henry Darlington and Catherina Elizabeth Olsson (Kate) lived at Littabella, about 20 kms south of Boaga where they leased a property with Frederick Darlington, Joseph’s brother. Ettie was born here on 27 February 1904. Joseph sold his share of the property to his brother and moved the family to Bundaberg, where he opened a restaurant in Bourbong Street, near where the Commonwealth Bank stands today. Kate ran a boarding house located where the Council Offices now stand, also in Bourbong Street. Six more children were born. From 1919 Joseph spent 10 years in the Diamantina Hospital in Brisbane with an incurable disease and died on 29 June 1929. Kate had already moved the family to Wowan, north west of Biloela on a property called “Lorraine”. Ettie remembers working in the local store “McSweeneys, Universal Frontier”.

Here, in Wowan, Ettie met John Hill, a sheep drover. A romance developed and they eloped taking the train to Rockhampton, then walking to Calliope and on to Gladstone, then caught a train to Brisbane.

The family undertook a very long walk over 15 years. Their first child Kathleen was born in Brisbane. They set out to walk to St George, but Kathleen died in Warwick of septicaemia. Two other children died and Norman was born in Charleville on 11 April 1928 and Olive Elisabeth at Blackall on 25 December 1929. Nora was born in Mackay on 13 April 1931, Ethel at Longreach on 16 January 1933. Betty was born at Boulia on 12 November 1934.

Ettie and John headed south to Innamincka. They owned an old car with no engine, which was pulled by a horse. Cooper Creek was flooded and father, John and only son, Norman helped Ettie and the girls to cross over the flood. They pitched a lean-to tent under an old tree on the high side of the creek. Ettie was pregnant with her sixth child.

When the family were settled, John set out to walk to Mt Isa to look for work. John was never seen again, only his hat and razor were recovered.

Ettie was pregnant and alone with five children to care for and living in a lean-to tent on the bank of Cooper Creek. They were exposed to the weather and the frequent sand storms. The family were given support by the Hotel’s publican. An aboriginal woman Molly supplied them with goat’s milk.

On 18 July 1936, Ettie left 8 year old Norman in charge of his sisters and moved away from their campsite for the birth of her sixth daughter, on the bank of Cooper Creek. The local Mission Sisters brought the family to the Innamincka Hospital (Elizabeth Symon Nursing Home) and the family was looked after properly for the first time.

The Government Authorities were uncertain as to where the family should be sent, Broken Hill, Townsville or Brisbane. Since Ettie was a Queenslander by birth the family were brought back to the Queen Alexandria Home in Coorparoo in Brisbane.

A mother in the small Queensland town of Mullet Creek, Kate Darlington, longed for her daughter, missing for 15 years. She read the article in the “Truth” newspaper about a woman and family rescued from Innamincka. Was this story referring to her long lost daughter? It was! But she did not have the train fare to travel to Brisbane immediately.

Mrs Hill feared that the family would be split up by the State Children’s Department, but she stood her ground and a little home was found for the family on the water front at Darling Point, Manly. This was the family’s first real home in 15 years. Youngest daughter Isabella spent the first 12 months in Brisbane in Hospital, suffering from malnutrition. Norman and Olive, the eldest daughter were the first of the family to attend Manly State School.

After a few months a larger house was found at 153 Carlton Terrace. Isabella came home from hospital and the family lived there for the next 20 years.

## What's On

Date	Event	Venue	Booking
Wednesdays 10 - Noon. Sundays 3 - 5pm.	"Tides of Brisbane" Historical Boat Trip	City Botanic Gardens River Hub. Corner Edward and Alice Streets	\$85. Book: 3339 0800 Museum of Brisbane.
Select Fridays and Saturdays 10.30- Noon (Max 10 People)	"Brisbane Walking Tours - Past and Present"	Meet in Ground Floor City Hall. A 1.2 km walk. Finish in Museum of Brisbane, Floor 3, City Hall.	\$20 +Booking Fee 3339 0800
Saturday April 15and 10 June 2023 7 - 9.00pm	"Paranormal Investigation". Discover the haunted heritage of Wolston Farmhouse. Light Refreshments	Wolston Farmhouse Age 16+Only. 30888133 23 Grindle Road, Wacol.	\$45.00 Pre-book: National Trust on line. 5534 1266
Tuesday 18 and Friday 21 April 10.00am	"Those who served" Discovering Service records in the collection.	National Archives 16 Corporate Drive Cannon Hill	Free. Book Eventbrite
Sunday 23 April 2023 10.30 - 11.30am	Exploring Stories from Gallipoli Campaign	ANZAC Square Memorial Galleries 285 Ann St (Beneath Shrine of Remembrance)	Free Book 0466 922 259
Thursday 27 April 2023 10 - 11am	"Remembering Expo 88"	Wynnum Pblc Library 145 Florence Street, Wynnum	Free. Book: 3403 2199
Saturday 29 April 2023 9 - 4pm	"Planes, Trains and Autos" An exciting day of Activities!!	Workshops, Rail Museum North Street. North Ipswich	\$5 (Concess) Inq:3432 5100
Sunday 28 May 2023	"Brisbane Crime and Criminals"	Ground Floor Conference Room Qld Police Headquarters 200 Roma Street City	Brisbane History Group: Enq: 3368 1828.

### 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
Lota House: Photos over 150 years	Myrtle Beitz	\$15
Story of Lota House 1867 - 2017	Myrtle Beitz	\$ 5
Church Buildings of Wynnum Manly and Lota	Coupland and Greenhill	\$10
Early Shipping in Moreton Bay 1846 - 1859	Davenport and Mottram	\$ 5
Early Shipping in Moreton Bay 1860 - 1863	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 16 March 2023

**Meeting opened at 7.20pm**

There were 23 members present, 2 apologies and 2 visitors, Kate O'Neil and Tom Schultz

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

Meeting was welcomed and thanked for assistance after February meeting.

Attention was drawn to the commencement of the removal of the heritage section of the old Baptist Church in Bay Terrace.

Rotary are considering mending the Pelican's Perch ( Balue's Slip).

**Previous Minutes:** (Jill)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 16 February 2023 were accepted by Jill Greenhill, seconded by Ellen Coupland.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Report from Geraint)

Cash Management A/C No. 20139708, Bus Web Saver A/C No. 2019708 and Term Investment A/c 23366345.

Balance at 1 February 2023 \$30,339.86

at 28 February 2023 \$30,515.06

Everyday A/C \$ 7,873.89

Res. Centre A/C \$ 7,641.17

Fixed Term (to 18/11/2023) \$15,000.00

\$30,515.06

**Correspondence:**

Lena presented the correspondence report from 1 to 28 February 2023. The correspondence was accepted and endorsed at the committee meeting held on Thursday 2 February 2023.

**Resource Centre:** (Jill)

The answer to the question, "Where am I", was looking at the top of the fountain, now located on the roundabout at Corner House, Wynnum. The fountain was built as, one of a pair, in front of the City Hall after WWII (1949). When Albert St was closed between Ann at and Adelaide Street in 1967, for the building of the underground car park and raised City Square, this fountain came to the Corner House Roundabout.

**The General Meeting was closed the holding of the 2023 Annual for General Meeting.**

**.Speaker**

Tess Rowley, the author of "Remembering Nazareth House" gave an insight into the preparation and publishing of her book. She explained how she obtained the stories from the girls who had lived there, and how she has remained a life-long friend to some of the main characters in the book.

Lucky Door: Margaret Collins

Raffle: Katie O'Neil

Meeting closed 8.30pm and members were invited to partake of refreshments, aided by Ellen Coupland and Lena McCreadie.

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

**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: Lucy Laakso, Lena McCreadie, Geraint Gregory, Jill Greenhill, Myrtle Beitz, Ellen Coupland, Chris Seymour.

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