

WYNNUM MANLY

HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

February 2020 Newsletter

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday
20 February 2020
 7pm for 7.15pm start

Ambulance Museum Auditorium

(Corner of Cedar St and
 Tingal Road Wynnum)

Speaker

Geraint Gregory

The life and times of Geraint Gregory—Part 1

Member, Geraint, together with his late wife Justeen, started out looking for information on East Brisbane, formerly Mowbraytown, for a series for their local paper. They have finished with a rich history of the region with accounts of the people, places and events that have defined the area.

Door Prize

Membership Draw

Raffle

Bring & Buy Table

*Donations of \$2 and over to
 Wynnum Manly Historical
 Society Inc
 are tax deductible.*

From the President

Greetings, and welcome to our February 2020 Newsletter. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all of our members and your families my best wishes for this New Year. Here's to a happy, healthy and fulfilling year ahead, and, may we see peace and goodwill to others in our somewhat fragile and dysfunctional world. Let's be thankful that we live in a beautiful democratic country. As someone said recently, "Australia would be the only country in the world where you could call the president an idiot and be able to go to work the next day as usual."

In our November newsletter I wrote about UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Australia, and, as I received some positive feedback from that, I decided to continue on that theme today. This time the Australian Convict Sites.

Their criteria for listing as a heritage site being "Significance in human history. Heritage associated with the events of universal significance.

The property consists of a selection of eleven penal sites, among the thousands established by the British Empire on Australian soil in the 18th and 19th centuries. The eleven sites are spread from Freemantle in WA to Kingston and Arthur's Vale on Norfolk Island in the east as well as Tasmania and Sydney also have sites listed.

Around 166,000 persons (children as well as adults) were transported to Australia over 80 years between 1787 and 1868, condemned by British justice to transportation to the convict colonies. Each of the sites had a specific purpose, in terms of punitive imprisonment and rehabilitation through forced labour, to help build the colony. The 11 sites listed present the best surviving examples of large scale convict settlement and the colonial expansion of European powers through the presence and labour of convicts. This includes a range of buildings from the Governor's residence in Parramatta NSW to the Port Arthur complex in Tasmania. We are fortunate to have many well preserved convict buildings in Australia.

All for now . Best Wishes Jan

Resource Centre Report

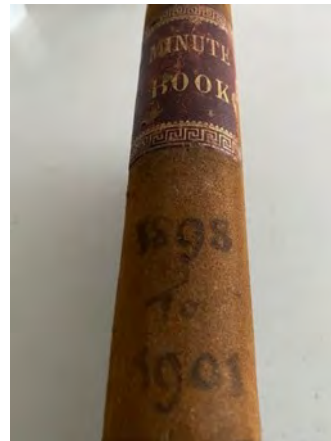
February 2020



Best Wishes for a Happy, Prosperous and Healthy New Year to all our members, volunteers and visitors who visit the History Resource Room.

- ***“Wynnum Divisional Board”(1892 – 1901) and “Town of Wynnum”(1912 – 1925) Minute Books***

“When demolition of the old Wynnum Town Hall was about to commence in 1974,(for the construction of the Leisure Centre) the then local **Alderman, Eric Shaw**, assisted by Council employee, Mark Morton, rescued three Council meeting minute books from the old Town Council Safe.” (Eric Shaw)



Minute Book 1898 - 1901

The Wynnum Divisional Board oversaw the organisation of the district between 1892 and 1901. The minutes in this volume are hand- written and commence on September 9th 1898. Meetings commenced at 8.00pm and closed around 11.00pm. All the names of the councillors are recorded

Eric, himself delivered the three Minute books to the Society in the last week that the Resource Room was open in December 2019.

- ***Birth Certificate. William Robert O’Brien***



Amongst a donation of old papers, we found this Birth Certificate for William Robert O’Brien, born in South Brisbane on 1 March 1866.

His father was Robert O’Brien, born in 1840, a Mariner from Dublin who married Ellen (nee Prest), from London, on 5 May 1863, in Brisbane.

There is already a 2-year-old son, Gilbert Robertson in the family.

If this certificate can be claimed by a member of this family, please let us know. Though the birth may not associated with Wynnum / Manly, the certificate should not be thrown away.

Resource Centre Report—February 2020

Cont. from page 2

- **Visit from a former resident of Margaret Marr Home**

Steve Alexander, his wife and their dog came to Wynnum last week and visited us. Steve had lived in the home in the late 1950's and early 1960's when Matron Alma Store and husband Arthur "Boss" Store were in charge. He had great respect for Alma and enjoyed the wonderful playground the boys had, by the sea.

Steve and President Jan had the Ashton Street Methodist Church in common. On Sundays Jan remembers the Junior Choir, of which she was a member, sitting on one side of the church in the choir stalls and the Margaret Marr Home boys sat facing them in the choir stalls on the other side of the church.

Steve seemed happy with his time in the Home and was very pleased to talk with us last week.

Till next time, Jill

HELP NEEDED

Our Annual General Meeting is fast approaching next month. We urgently need your assistance to keep our Society functioning. Please consider nominating for a position on the Committee. All positions will be vacant and need filling. Don't be shy. You do not need any experience—just a bit of time to have some fun with fellow committee members once a month.

See the Nomination Form contained this newsletter or call into the Resource Centre to complete a form.

THANK YOU

Membership Renewals now overdue

Membership renewals for 2020 were due by 31 December 2019. Membership prices remain the same:-

\$20.00 for individuals

\$30.00 for families

Renewals can be paid by cash or cheque at the Resource Centre; or at the General Meetings; or by post to PO Box 318, Wynnum 4178; or by direct deposit to:-

Bank of Queensland BSB 124 012 Account No 2013 9708 Account Name: Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc.

If paying by direct deposit, please use your surname and initial as the reference.

Thank you to our sponsors . . .

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We thank
Joan Pease,
Member for Lytton
and the members of her
Office
for the monthly printing
of our newsletter

Colonial Residences in Wynnum Manly and Lota.

Many enquirers come into the History Room and are seeking the age of their recently purchased “new” home, often believing that the house must be at least 100 years old

One can distinguish between “Early Colonial” and “Late Colonial” styled residences.

Between **1825 – 1842**, the **Early Colonial** buildings were constructed. This was the time of the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement. The only buildings surviving are the Old Windmill in Wickham Terrace and the Commissariat Store.

Free settlement progress from the **1850’s onwards**. Houses were constructed of locally sourced timber, stone and brick. Few survive as their fatal flaw was that they were built on, or close to, the ground with insufficient termite barriers. The few elite residences that remain throughout Brisbane are already well documented. In this district we have Lota House.

1880 – 1890’s is classed as the **Late Colonial times**.

This is when the residential area of Wynnum/Manly/Lota began to develop.

The humble “gabled cottage”, with steep pitched roof and separate veranda roof, is one room deep and two rooms wide, with a skillion-roofed kitchen extension on the back, dated from 1880 through to the 1890’s.



Cont. on page 5

Cont. from page 4

Cottages built in the **late 1880's through to 1900's** and beyond, again **Late Colonial** are recognised by the "Pyramid" or "Short Ridge" roof and gave rise to the "Queenslander", as we know it. The house was perched on timber stumps, with ant caps, and had a square configuration with an internal layout of two bedrooms, a sitting room and a kitchen. The street frontage had a separate veranda roof, which sometimes extended around the sides of the house. The steeply pitched corrugated roof, separate veranda roof, and often a brick chimney, set these houses apart.



An Asymmetrical Colonial with L-Shaped veranda.

Look for the separate veranda roof

More substantial middle and upper middle class designs, included two storey villas with internal fire places, attic rooms and other remnants of European design, that mostly proved unsuitable for the Queensland climate.

Your Task:

Consider the houses in your street. If you live on a new housing state, look instead at the design of houses as you drive through Wynnum, Manly and Lota.

FIND A LATE COLONIAL HOUSE, so that we can start a collection of local photographs and addresses before all these houses disappear.

Remember that some modern houses are built to mimic the old styles.

Please let me know what you find.

Jill

TOUR SUGGESTIONS

Join "Brisbane Cruises" for a ride from Brisbane to Gold Coast

Friday 28 February

Saturday 14 March

BRISBANE to GOLD COAST: 300 Island sheltered water cruise from Brisbane to the Gold Coast. CAPTAIN'S SPECIAL only \$85 per adult* (reduced from \$105 per adult)

Price includes: *6 hour cruise,

*Freshly baked muffins, tea/coffee for morning tea,

*BBQ lunch with export rib fillet steak, deli sausages, fresh salads, bread and fresh fruit and

*Afternoon tea biscuits tea/coffee PLUS

*Return coach to your departure point.

For our **Brisbane to Gold Coast cruise, we currently depart from Northshore, Hamilton Pontoon, Brisbane** (due to Kingsford Smith Drive redevelopment) **and return, via coach to your departure point.** Confirmation on booking.

Call Brisbane Cruises on 3630 2666 for further information and booking

Australia Day Sunday 26 January 2020

At 6.00am the sausages were frying, the Scouts were erecting the flagpoles, the vintage cars were lining up, the tea and damper tent was on the move, searching for a power point and the Wynnum Manly Historical Society was, once again, setting up shop!



Visitors were appreciative. Many questions were answered. Pancakes, damper and sausages were eaten. The morning was hot and windy, so many cups of Red Cross water were drunk. But around 11.30am a large black cloud was noticed behind us, advancing quickly across Moreton Bay towards Bandstand Park, and dropping rain into the sea.

We were packed up and ready to run. The rain was falling at the entrance to Wynnum Creek. But the wind changed. And not a drop of water fell on the proceedings.

Jill

The Mystery of the Toys in the Wall

I never really payed too much attention to the rough patch up plaster job which was on the lounge room wall apart from the fact it was on the 'to do' list for way too long. My late 1940's early 1950's chamfer board has been home for some 30 years and when it came to doing some renovation on the bathroom, I would never have thought I would find a lovely little piece of local history.

As I peeled back the fibre board to replace (fortunately not the dreaded asbestos) I was delighted to find a small horde of old toy cars and a cereal box toy of the type which we all fought over whenever Mum opened a new box of rice bubbles or the like. Among the 'treasure' was a Husky brand Buick Electra, and two Guy brand, Warrior Tankers, all made in Great Britain.

My first thought was wow these are old!.....and on doing some research they WERE old.....as old as ME I was shocked to learn. They would have been of the type of toys I played with as a child, all mine of course are long gone.

The value of these old toys is negligible, the historical value, is of course something else. Was the boy who lost his toys in the hole in the wall some 50 years ago upset? or had he grown tired of them? Perhaps another sibling 'put them away' for him.

I noted that there was a W.L. and E.R.Wright living at the house listed on the plumbing plan dated 1st February 1967. That falls in the right time frame for the 'toys in the wall'. Doing a search on trove I found a Mrs W Wright of Randall Avenue (now called Kamarin Street) whose children narrowly escaped a fire while visiting her sister-in-law in Edith Street, Wynnum in 1953 (see newspaper right). So I had found a reference to the Wright family who had lived in what is now my house. I wonder how the family ended up? By late 1967 there was a widow by the

name of Mary Ellen O'Shea listed as owner of the house, the Wright family it seems had moved on. The toys in wall were finally liberated a few decades later, but the name of the little boy who lost them remains a mystery.



The toys from the wall. Photo from Sid Weiss, 2020.

sidneyweiss1@live.com.au

Wynnum mothers rescue children

Mothers carried screaming children to safety as fire raged through a block of flats at Wynnum shortly before noon today.

The flats, owned by John Deveney, were in Edith Street, Wynnum Central.

Only one of the flats was occupied at the time.

The tenant, Mrs. R. Wright, and her two sisters-in-law and seven children were in the flat when the fire started.

One of the children was in bed sick and another was a two-weeks-old infant.

One of the tenant's sisters-in-law, Mrs. W. Wright, of Randall Avenue, Manly said: "The children were terrified and started to scream."

"We rushed about grabbing the children and carrying them to safety in the yard.

"We returned to the blazing house and tried to carry out the furniture.

"Two men came to our assistance, but the flames spread so rapidly we were unable to save very much."

Firemen poured hundreds of gallons of water on to the fire before they controlled it.

They said they did not know how the fire started.

Brisbane Telegraph (Qld.),
Friday 11 Sept 1953, page 1.
Courtesy of Trove NLA.

November 2019 Where was I?



This memorial is on Manly foreshore near the picnic sheds and was erected to celebrate the suburb of Manly attaining 100 years.

The occasion was in 1982. A week-long party of events was held. The organising committee was led by Ron Schmidt. Full details and photographs are held in the Resource Room.



February 2020 Where am I?



Till next time

Jill

Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc
Minutes of General Meeting held in Ambulance Museum Auditorium, Tingal Road
on Thursday 19 November 2019

Meeting opened at 7.25pm. There were 23 members present.

Opening Comments:

President, Jan Parnell took the Chair, welcomed members to the meeting and provided some interesting items regarding Leo Tolstoy (1828 – 1910) who died 90 years ago in November. Tolstoy was one of the world's greatest novelists, author of *War and Peace* 1869 and *Anna Karenina* 1877

Previous Minutes:

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 17 October 2019 were accepted by Eric Sibley and seconded by Margaret Bulloch.

Correspondence:

The correspondence report was presented for October 2019. The correspondence was accepted and endorsed at the committee meeting held on Thursday 7 November 2019.

Treasurers Report

BOQ A/c No 20139708	<u>1 October 2019 – 31 October 2019</u>	
Opening balance at 1 October 2019		\$36,288.31
Income	\$ 71.95	
Expenditure	\$125.33	
Closing balance at 31 October 2019		\$36,234.93
 <u>Bank Account Breakup</u>		
Everyday Account	\$ 3,836.73	
Websaver(Building)Account	\$32,398.20 (including \$13.70 interest)	
 TOTAL FUNDS AS AT 31 October 2019		 \$36,234.93

Resource Centre:

“Where was I?” this month was a photo of the plaque, mounted on Manly foreshore in 1982, to commemorate 100 years of the suburb of Manly. Week-long celebrations were held, organised by a hard-working committee led by

A **Christmas Trivia** was led by Jill Greenhill, with local and general knowledge content. The Blue Team won the prize.

Lucky Door Mavis Wagner **Member Draw:** Sandy Liddle

The **14 Christmas Basket Raffles**, contents all donated by members, were drawn.

Winners were Peter Cumming, Carole Astill, Lyn Shanks, Mavis Wagner Eric Sibley, Anne Hall, Evana Jones, Jan Parnell, Jill Greenhill, and Mitch Parsons, some members drawing more than one prize.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

A delicious Supper with Christmas fare was provided by the Committee.

Jill Greenhill (*General Meeting Minute Secretary*)

When	Where	What's On
<p>February 12 2020</p> <p>12.30pm—1.30pm</p> <p>Cost—Free</p> <p>Enquiries—Ph 3221 4698</p>	<p>Royal Qld Historical Society</p> <p>Commissariat Store</p> <p>115 William Street</p> <p>Brisbane</p>	<p>Emigrant : the ship of death by Jane Smith</p> <p>The Emigrant sailed into Moreton Bay in August 1850 after four terrible months at sea. Some 276 poor settlers from England and Ireland boarded the ship in Plymouth, hoping to build a better life in Australia. Around 20 died on the voyage from typhus and other maladies before it was diverted to the new quarantine station at Dunwich. A hellish 3 month quarantine followed during which 2 doctors and 26 immigrants died.</p>
<p>February 18 2020</p> <p>5pm</p> <p>Cost—Gold coin donation</p> <p>Enquiries—Ph 3513 0948</p>	<p>Brisbane Catholic Historical Society</p> <p>Hanly Room of Francis Rush Centre</p> <p>Beside St Stephen's Cathedral</p> <p>Elizabeth Street</p> <p>Brisbane</p>	<p>Patrick William Shannon : His contribution to church and State</p> <p>Peter Mylne, grandson of Shannon, will be speaking of his grandfather and his contribution to the church and the state.</p>
<p>February 22 2020</p> <p>7.30pm</p> <p>Cost—\$15</p>	<p>Abbey Museum Friends</p> <p>The Abbey Hall</p> <p>1—63 The Abbey Place</p> <p>Caboolture</p>	<p>Captain James Cook : a culture of music and dance</p> <p>Join Dr Heather Clarke when she reveals the untold story of how Cook used to dance to keep his sailors happy and healthy. Discover how the social English country dances of the period reflected Cook's popularity and hear how the life and death of the famous navigator were commemorated on the stage..</p>
<p>February 29 2020</p> <p>1pm—4.15pm</p> <p>Cost—Free</p> <p>Bookings essential</p> <p>Ph: 3397 2020</p>	<p>St Joseph's College</p> <p>285 Gregory Terrace</p> <p>Spring Hill</p> <p>(GT125 Theatre)</p>	<p>What are the odds?</p> <p>This Brisbane History Group seminar will look at the serious subject of responsible gambling along with other aspects of gambling.</p>
<p>February 29 2020</p> <p>6pm—9pm</p> <p>Cost—\$20 per person</p> <p>Supper provided</p> <p>BYO nibbles & drinks</p> <p>Bookings essential</p> <p>Ph: 0409 037629</p>	<p>Waterloo Bay Leisure Centre</p> <p>241 Tingal Road</p> <p>Wynnum</p>	<p>Leap into Trivia—Peter Cumming's Trivia Night</p> <p>Come and support the Society's patron, Peter Cumming, at his Trivia Night. Always loads of fun.</p>

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc. is to be held on **19 March 2020**. Nominations are now being called for all positions. Nomination forms are available at the Resource Centre, at the next meeting as well as below. Position descriptions are available from Jill Greenhill. Nominations close on **5 March 2020** whereafter the nomination forms will be placed on the Resource Centre door.

To be eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting, you **MUST** be a financial member so please ensure your membership fees are up to date by 19 March 2020.

NOMINATION FORM – 2020

The Secretary
 Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc
 PO Box 318
 WYNNUM Q 4178

We _____
 and _____
 hereby nominate _____
 for the position of _____

on the Management Committee of the Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc for the purpose of elections to be held on Thursday, 19 March 2020.

Dated this _____ day of _____ 2020

Proposer’s signature _____
 Seconder’s signature _____

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Our Committee and Volunteers..

Acting President: Jan Parnell	3396 6001	president@wmhs.org.au
Vice President: Vacant		
Secretary: Lena McCreadie	3393 4393	secretary@wmhs.org.au
Treasurer: Sandy Liddle	3207 4467	treasurer@wmhs.org.au
Librarian: Jill Greenhill	3393 3208	library@wmhs.org.au
Speaker Co-ordinator: Myrtle Beitz	3396 4711	events@wmhs.org.au
Membership Co-ordinator: Sandy Liddle	3207 4467	membership@wmhs.org.au
Newsletter Editor: Sandy Liddle	3207 4467	newsletter@wmhs.org.au
Supper Co-ordinator: Eric Sibley	3393 3208	
Publicity Officer: Vacant		
Welfare Officer: Ellen Coupland	3899 1326	ellen@wmhs.org.au
Plaques & Memorials: Mitchell Parsons	0448 522 403	plaques@wmhs.org.au
Life Members: Myrtle Beitz, Jill Greenhill, Noela Stratton		
Friend of Society: John McIntyre		
Late Life Members: Merv Beitz, Jack Sands, John Davies.		
Patrons: Cr Peter Cumming and Joan Pease MP.		

General Meetings

Afternoon set up: Jill Greenhill, Myrtle Beitz, Eric Sibley
 Welcome at Door and Raffles: Jan Parnell, Lyn Shanks
 Supper Co-ordinators: Eric Sibley, Ellen Coupland
 Raffle Prizes: Committee

Minutes

Committee Meetings: Ellen Coupland
 General Meetings: Jill Greenhill

Newsletters

Editor: Sandy Liddle
 Distribution (email): Sandy Liddle
 Distribution (mail out): Jill Greenhill

Resource Centre

Volunteers: Ian Wheeler, Ian Kennedy, Myrtle Beitz, Dawn Wilkins, Margaret Bulloch, Ellen Coupland, Jill Greenhill, Jan Parnell
 Research Enquiries: Jill Greenhill, Ellen Coupland

Tours

Planning and Co-ordination: Jan Parnell, Jill Greenhill, Lena McCreadie, Ellen Coupland, Deb Tearle, Myrtle Beitz
 Bookings: Sandy Liddle at General Meetings and Resource Centre staff each weekday

Publications for sale

Wynnum Community Centre, Room 1.08, 105 Florence Street Wynnum Mon to Fri 10am to Noon, or
 Wynnum Manly Historical Society, PO Box 318, Wynnum Q 4178, or

Early Shipping in Moreton Bay June 1846 –December 1859 Vol 1	Davenport, Winifred and Mottram, Betty	1998	\$5
Early Shipping in Moreton Bay January 1860 –December 1863 Vol 2	Davenport, Winifred and Mottram, Betty	1998	\$5
History of Music in the Wynnum Manly Area 1900 - 1997	Nock, Betty	1998	\$5
History of Arts in the Wynnum Manly Area 1900 – 2003	Nock, Betty	2005	\$5
Mangroves to Moorings - Revisited	Beitz, Myrtle	2005	\$35
Story of Lota House	Beitz, Myrtle	2017	Donation
Lota House. Photographs and Images over 150 Years	Beitz, Myrtle	2017	\$15
From Saplings to Kero Tins A Peek at Gumdale's Past 2nd Ed.	Nalder Robyn	2017	\$15

Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc.

PO Box 318

Wynnum QLD 4178



Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc.
Our aim is to gather and record local history before it is lost.

Membership application forms are available from the Resource Centre
at the Wynnum Community Centre (formerly the Wynnum Central State School building), .Florence St, Wynnum

Membership costs per year (1 January to 31 December)

Single \$20.00

Family \$30.00

High School Student \$10.00

PLEASE NOTE: There is a joining fee of \$10.00 per person.



Visit us online at: www.wmhs.org.au