

Summary of Minutes

General Meeting held on Thursday 17 April 2003

The meeting opened at 7.30 pm. Bill Tegner introduced the visitors. The President introduced the new committee to the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Society held an operating balance of \$3,021.36 at 30 April 2003.

Resource Centre: Jill Greenhill extended her thanks to all the volunteers and invited more members to help to keep the centre open on a daily basis. A Sub-Committee, comprising Ian Kennedy, Myrtle Beitz and Heather Smith, has been formed to organise the operation of the Centre. At Robert Deveridge's suggestion, a Society display is now mounted in the Wynnum Public Library outside the Merv Beitz Room.

General Business: Gordon Brown is to prepare a report on the shipwreck of the 'Rufus King'.

Cherrie Nicholson has been given some information on the history of Sailing in the area but would like more particularly of the late 20's and early 40's.

A poster, donated by Julie Milne, of the painting of the 'Duyfken' has been mounted and will be given as a raffle prize at the Spring Parade in October.

Speakers: **Stewart Simmons** gave a fascinating and very moving description of his experiences on the Kakoda Track which he described as the toughest and longest campaign of WW2. Fighting against deplorable conditions – rain, mud, heat, lack of food and deadly illness – few of the soldiers survived. Stewart made his talk even more graphic with photos and by showing us exactly how much (little) the daily ration of food was for the troops. He also showed us a rice dixie and water bottle he took from a dead Japanese officer. He finished his presentation by playing a Slim Dusty song based on the campaign.

Spot speaker, Councillor **Peter Cumming** described the plans of Brisbane City Council for changes in the life style of Brisbane and its residents by 2010. This vision for the future includes a better designed, cleaner, more accessible, more prosperous, more creative and healthier city. Peter also explained the City Council's heritage-listing process and indicated the possible sites to be considered in the Wynnum Manly area.

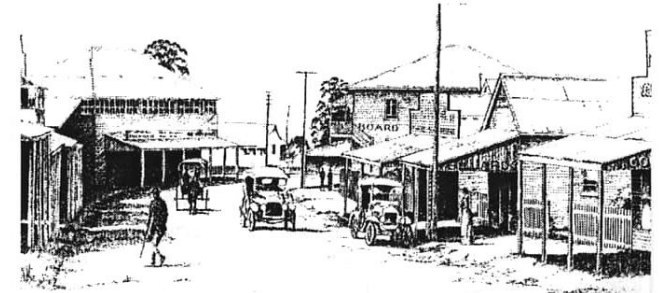
The **Lucky Door Prize** was won by Gwyneth Gilshenan and the **Membership Draw** by Jack Sands.

Meeting closed: 9.30pm Kay Bond (Secretary)

(Full un-abridged minutes are available on request.)

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If undelivered please return to:
Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc.
P O Box 318 WYNNUM Q 4178
ABN: 48 071 835845
President: Noela Stratton 3396 0069



Cambridge Parade Manly Circa 1920

WYNNUM MANLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

NEWSLETTER

May 2003

Thursday 15 May at 7.30pm
in the Baptist Church Hall
(Corner Bay Terrace / Clara Street)

“ORMISTON HOUSE”

By

Guest Speaker

JULIA PONDER

Jack Sands

will explain the use of the recently restored
“GUNTER'S CHAIN”

Gold Coin entry - covers hire of Hall and Super
Bring and Buy Stall - Bring your unwanted gifts, cakes,
fruit, vegetables to support the Resource Centre
Appreciation to Nena Robertson and Shirley Jeffries who
will be providing your **supper**

Please invite a friend to attend

A Message from the President . . .

Last month, I mentioned the keen interest that our displays, mounted at various times in various locations, have raised in members of the community.

This interest also extends to the new Resource Centre sited in the Wynnum Civic Centre. Until recently, no-one would have envisaged the Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc. being involved in such an enterprise. The need developed, the time was right and the Centre was born - with the generosity of the Brisbane City Council.

The Centre has been open now for almost three months. In that time approximately 350 people have visited the room. Some people have popped in to see what we have. Other people have donated photographs, newspapers, maps and books, while others have browsed through the collection on the shelves. Specific interests have included Fort Lytton and Moreton Island during World War II, Moreton Bay College and St. Kilda Hospital where they were born or, as a child, had their adenoids and tonsils removed.

Many enquiries have been for information about local houses. When people acquire an old article or piece of jewelry, they like to know something of its history. The same applies to dwellings. Apart from finding out the building's original appearance and if it has been altered in any way, they like to get to know the history of their new home, when it was built and who has lived there.

While we have information on the original landowners, the Society's project, *MY HOUSE*, is a way we can answer these enquiries. I entreat those of you who have not yet contributed to this project to do so. Pick up a form at the next meeting! Remember, "Our Future is Your Past" and the future will come all too quickly. Noela Stratton

Clunies Flats, Brisbane River

Captain James Clunie was commandant of Moreton Bay Settlement from October 1830 to November 1835.

Mount Gravatt

Lieutenant George Gravatt was commandant of Moreton Bay Settlement from May 1839 to July 1939.

Explore: <http://www.home.gil.com.au/~tmacey/history> and learn of life in Moreton Bay Settlement - the convicts the aborigines, the explorers and the establishment of Limestone, now Ipswich.

For those of you booked on the Heritage Tour Saturday 17 May 2003

Be at the Civic Centre to depart at 8.15am sharp!
Pay your lunch money (\$8) BEFORE entering the bus.

Thank you

Next Tour
Saturday 19 July
Keep the date free for a boat trip to
Stradbroke Island

Another fact about the 1500's . . .

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the dogs, cats and other small animals (mice, rats and bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained, the straw became wet and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof, hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs."

Can you help our researchers?

Tennis - Myrtle Beitz Ph: 3396 4711
Sailing - Cherrie Nicholson— Ph: 3396 1811
"Rufus King" - Gordon Brown
Historic Trees – Les Greenhill—Ph: 3393 3208

Do you have a particular interest?
Let us know for future projects.

How good is your memory? (Answers overleaf)

In which year was:

*the Digger Memorial installed at Ferguson Place, Manly ?

*water "turned on" and reticulated through the district?

*an Act passed to abolish the Upper House in Qld?

Our Heritage Listed Places:

Waterloo Bay Hotel



In 1889, George Gibbs and his family moved to Wynnum. With the knowledge that the Cleveland railway line was due to open later that same year, George, a stonemason by trade, bought a block of land in Mary Street (now Berrima Street) with the intention of building a hotel. On 6 November 1889, just five days after the railway line opened, the South Brisbane Licensing Court granted approval for the licensing of the *Waterloo Bay Hotel*.

In early 1890, George received approval to build a private bathing house for the hotel guests.

It is believed that this was also the year his son, William, planted two mango trees and a Moreton Bay Fig tree. Unfortunately, the mango trees were removed about 25 years ago but the magnificent fig tree still stands at the corner of Berrima St and Bay Terrace.

During the next few years, the Hotel changed hands several times. George Gibbs sold it to Sarah Jane King on 23 March 1892. William Morris purchased it in 1895 and then sold it to Helen Rankin Turner 12 August 1896. It changed hands again on 3 August 1898 when it was bought by William Denis O'Connor.

Although WD O'Connor owned the Hotel until his death, in 1950, there were numerous licensees during this period.

One, Sarah Baird, applied to the Licensing Court in January 1911 to have music every Saturday. A new application had to be made every week and the License Register shows that this was one of the first hotels on the south side of the river to have music.

In 1918, architect GHM Addison was commissioned to make several alterations which included a new public bar and private accommodation.

In the early years, a water lift was used to lower beer kegs from the foot-path into the cellar and then up to the bar when required.

There have been several major additions over the years but much of its original design can still be seen 115 years later. Heather Smith

Remember our Regular Meetings . . .

Third Thursday: (May 15) Baptist Hall 7.30pm:

Julia Ponder "Ormiston House" Jack Sands "Gunter's Chain"

Last Thursday: (May 29) Wynnum Public Library 10am:

Local Speaker and Morning Tea

Monday to Friday 10 –12 noon:

Resource Centre 7/66 Bay Terrace (Outside Public Library)