



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

## October 2023

## Issue. No. 156

### October General Meeting

### THURSDAY 19 October 2023

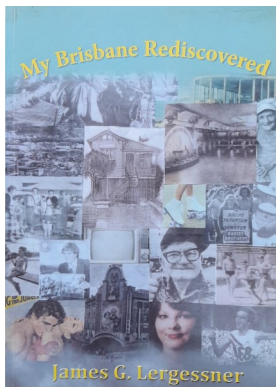
6.45 pm for 7.00pm start

Wynnum Ambulance Auditorium  
Corner Tingal Road / Cedar Street

Speaker is

### James Lergessner

### "My Brisbane Rediscovered"



James is a biographer, memoir writer and historian.

Dr Lergessner has been a University Professor of Education. He has published many books in relation to early Queensland, Brisbane and Caboolture, Brisbie Island and Moreton Bay

James has spoken many times to the Society and we welcome him once again.

### Bring and Buy !!

Raffle

Lucky Door

Refreshments

Gold Coin Donation

### October News from the Committee

#### Special Saturday Opening of Resource Centre

For members who may not be able visit during the week, the Resource Room will be open on the following dates in 2024, from 10.00am till Noon.

Saturday 3 February 2024 Saturday 4 May 2024

Saturday 7 September 2024 Saturday 5 October 2024

(Dates may be altered if necessary next year)

#### Commencement of Monthly Meetings in 2024

The Committee has decided to commence the Monthly Meetings at 7.00pm in 2024.

#### Membership Dues for 2024

Fees are due again on January 1 2024 and remain at \$25 per individual, \$40 per household and \$15 if under 15years.

Please put you fee in a named envelope and bring to the next monthly meeting

Bank payment can be made at **Bank of Qld**

To: Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc.

**BSB: 124 012 A/C: 2013 9708**

Ref: Surname. Fees.

#### Christmas Hampers

Please bring your donations to the **OCTOBER** meeting or drop them off at the Resource Centre.

10am - Noon Weekdays



**Thank you to all our members who have contributed to the stall, and then have made purchases**

**Bring and Buy on Thursday 19 October 2023**

Books Swap or \$1

Preserves . . .

Cakes and Biscuits . . .

Bring some home-made items and some cash!!!

Most items \$2



Located in the “Old School Building” at Room 1.08, 105 Florence Street, Wynnum.

Open Monday to Friday 10.00am to Noon or by appointment. (0407 293 177)

- ***A Present from Councilor Sara Whitmee:***



*“Hard at Work in the Resource Room”.*

Margaret and Ellen examining the laminated maps donated to the Society by Councilor Sara Whitmee.

We thank Sara for the gift and her interest and support of our organization.

Maps include the 1993 editions of the Northern and Southern areas of Wynnum Manly and an electoral boundary map from the 1940s.

- ***Olympus Service Station:***

Does anybody have a photo/newspaper advertisement of the Olympus Service Station. The garage was at the foot of Edith Street and in Tingal Road.

We are seeking to establish when the business was in operation.

- ***A donation from a member—“What happened in 1923 in Wynnum Manly***

Daily Mail (Brisbane, Qld. : 1903; 1916 - 1926), Thursday 11 October 1923, page 2.

GOLDEN CASKET WINNER -- Miss McMahon, joint winner with Mr. J. Walsh, of Golden Casket No. 75, is employed at the Waterloo Bay Hotel, Wynnum. She was naturally pleased to hear of her good fortune, but took the good news, which was communicated to her by a cousin in Brisbane, quite philosophically. Asked if the name "Second Try" Syndicate, had any special significance, Miss McMahon said it was the second occasion on which she had taken a casket ticket. She had, she said, been three years in Australia, and now that good fortune had so unexpectedly visited her, she intended to take a trip to Ireland to see her people. Mr. Walsh is a lengthsman employed on the railway line.

Thank you Michael.

Till Next Time. Jill.

## Where was I? September 2023



3 Tingal Road, Wynnum  
Discovered by Ian Wheeler

Most likely the early toilet Block  
for the Masonic Hall

The Masonic Hall was designed and constructed in 1920 by Veritable Worship Brother F J Wilkes, who himself was a Freemason, and is said to be a fine example of a particular class of cultural places.

The Wynnum Lodge, as a group of people, was originally formed in 1894. By 1896 the Lodge operated as Wynnum Lodge No. 342. but not until 1919 did the members decide to build their

own meeting Hall.

In 1894 the lodge was formed under the Irish Constitution with 24 Foundation members, who met for a considerable time in the old Shire Hall in Tingal Road. This building was the original Divisional Hall, became the Shire Hall in 1902 and then, in the 1970's the Over 50s Leisure Centre stood on the site. Other Lodges existed in the district, meeting also in the Shire Hall and St Peter's Church Hall. The Moreton Lodge with an English Constitution formed in 1913 and the Tuscan Lodge with a Scottish Constitution in 1914.

In 1919 title of the land passed to Henry Clarke and Arthur Dickens as trustees. A Bill of Mortgage for £1,500.00 to the Bank of New South Wales was taken out in July 1920, followed by an additional mortgage for £3,000 in December 1920. A Georgian Revival style temple was built in 1920 and mortgaged again in September 1922 for an additional £3,000.

The erection of this temple only just preceded the creation of the Grand Lodge of Queensland in April 1921 when all the Lodges, with the varying constitutions after many years of division became united.

In Wynnum, the Lodge played an important role in the community by performing charitable works and making regular donations to institutions such as the Wynnum Fire and Ambulance Brigades and Brisbane General Hospital. A widows and children's fund was formed. Charitable activities of the Masonic Lodges are not made public. The masons preferred to work quietly for the community without fanfare.

In 1933 Thomas Kilby and Joe Sands joined Henry Clarke as Trustees for the property and an additional mortgage was taken out over the property.

Finally in 1958 the interest in the mortgage was transferred of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Queensland as also were the titles to the land.

Land and building were sold and new owners have successfully applied in 2023 to construct two new houses, on the land, one on each side of the Lodge.



*Former Wynnum Lodge Hall 2023*

## Where am I? October 2023



Another find from  
Ian Wheeler!

**Sue Laakso, our Speaker at the previous Meeting in September has provided a summary of the documents that she used to research the History of her house.**

## RESEARCHING HOUSE HISTORY - SOURCES TO CONSIDER

### **Title Deeds.**

Request the most recent titles and go backwards. Contact the Qld Titles Office online or by phone as you will require 'historical title searches' somewhere in the history.

*Queensland Titles Office:* Level 7/259 Queen Street, Brisbane

*Website:* Costs, info@titlesqld.com.au Search Forms, Costs. Reference to 'Historical Title Searches'.

### **Electoral rolls.**

Both Commonwealth and State - there is often a discrepancy between the two so ensure cross-referencing to arrive at the best result.

*Old State Archives :* 435 Compton Road, Runcorn Q 4113

Digitised and uploaded historical State electoral rolls but in-house retrieval only.

"Ancestry" database provides patchy coverage of Australian Commonwealth rolls. Available in Public Libraries

*Wise's Directories and Post Office Directories:* Invaluable for cross-referencing who lived where and when.

"Ancestry" provides information from Post Office Directories, whereas Wise's Directories require access through a purchased database. Again the information is not always infallible but they are useful tools

### **TROVE**

Database of newspaper articles from various sources digitised by the National Library, Canberra  
Articles can give support information about where folk lived and when, their occupations and social activities.

### **Queensland Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages**

32/180 Ann Street, Brisbane City. Google - *bdm Queensland*. Enables searches on line

Provides good family information but dates are limited by privacy parameters

### **Brisbane City Archives**

Skyline Business Centre, 15/107 - 123 Muriel Ave, Moorooka Q 4105. Ph:3403 1711

Able to provide street maps, survey data, building approval data, rates data and more.

### **Brisbane City Council Library Catalogue**

"Brisbane Images" option contains many useful clues.

### **Queensland State Library**

Stanley Place, South Brisbane.

Ph:3840 7666

Numerous authoritative webcasts on researching house history are available. The catalogue also contains many photographs of houses taken by Frank and Eunice Corley in the 1960s and 1970s and the John Oxley photographic collection may have images that can be searched and may be useful.

### **Wynnum Manly Historical Society Resource Room**

Room 108 in the Wynnum Community Centre (The Old School), 105 Florence Street, Wynnum Q4178  
wmhs.org.au Great cross-section of information focusing on the local area. Staff at the Room are knowledgeable and willing to assist.

## OUR LOST PLACES

### BISHOP ISLAND

Moreton Bay Settlement was set up in 1824 to house convicts, those second-time offenders from Sydney. Until free settlement was allowed in 1842, the Government of New South Wales did little to improve navigation of the Brisbane River. There was a sand/mud bar across the river entrance, a rocky bar in the vicinity of Lytton and heavy shoals in the Hamilton Reach.

Free settlers arrived in 1842. Ships were moored in Moreton Bay. Only shallow-drafted lighters could enter the mouth of the river at high tide. One hundred pounds (£100) was reserved in the supplementary estimates of New South Wales for a proper survey of the river aiming to remove any natural object that impeded navigation. However, no work was attempted until after the separation of Queensland from New South Wales in 1859.

The first channel, the "West or Francis Channel", ran due northwards from the river mouth following the floor of a creek bed. Captain Thomas Francis used the Dredge "Lytton" to excavate the channel.

The second "Old Bar Cutting" or "Koopaa Channel", completed in 1883, was much straighter, easier to navigate and could accommodate larger vessels.

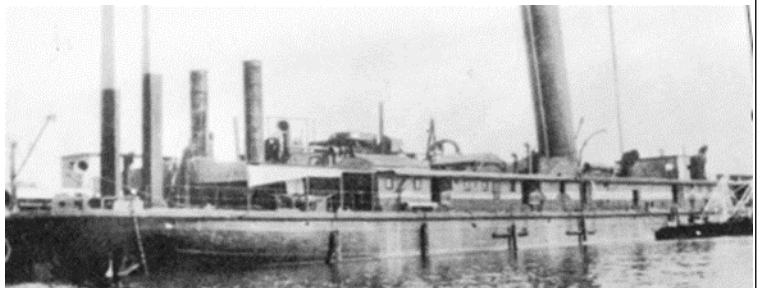
Building of the third and final cutting, accommodating even larger vessels, commenced 1908 and was completed by 1912. This is the "Inner Bar Cutting", formed by the dredge, "Hercules", captained by Captain Bishop.

Captain Alan Fitzroy Gordon Bishop (1857 – 1950) was born in the County of Essex, England. His father, Francis William Bishop was a Merchants' Clerk and his grandfather was Mayor of Colchester for seven years. Alan lived in a large house and his ambition was to become a soldier.

Family fortunes changed, the family moved to London and lived with the grandparents. Money was short and Alan found a clerical job in Cheapside. High spirits and mischievous ways brought about his dismissal and at fourteen years of age he signed up as an apprentice for four years on the barque "Pacific". Cargo was carried around the world.

Alan spent much time travelling between the Australian and New Zealand coast ports, until he was attracted by the lure of the North Queensland goldfields, but with little success.

After positions on the vessels sailing from Flying Fish Point, Dungeness, Keppel Bay and Curtis Island, he reached the Brisbane River in the early 1890's. He became the dredge master of the "Sampson" and his early work involved laying the dredged material from the Brisbane River onto the northern bank area, now occupied by the Royal Queensland Golf Course.



*Dredge Hercules*

But the mouth of the river was still shallow and precarious for shipping. So in 1909 the "Bar Cutting" was excavated using the dredge "Hercules". The spoil was dumped on a small sandbank to the southern side of the river mouth.

By 1912 an artificial island had grown, 10 – 12 feet (2 metres) above high water and 32 acres (17 hectares) in size. First known as 'Hercules Bank', then 'Dredge Island', the final gazetted name



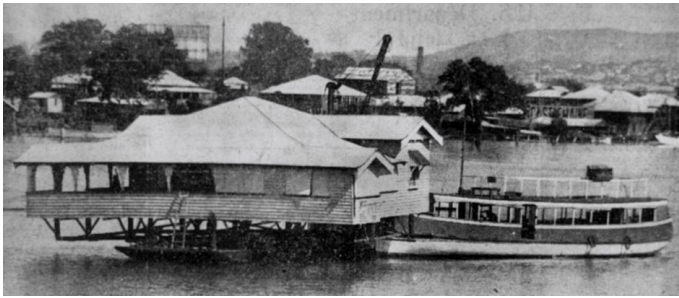
*Bishop Island* was 'Bishop Island'. Soon vegetation appeared. Hulks stripped of their sellable parts were sunk on the western side of the island to prevent erosion, fifteen wrecks in all.



(Continued on Page 6)

*The Wrecks*

In the 1930's Jim Crouch from Bulimba leased the island and floated buildings down the river, a kiosk, a house and a dance pavilion to develop his pleasure island. Bishop Island had fulfilled Captain Bishop's dream of becoming a "Pleasure Resort". Private boats and tourist operators visited for public events, such as sand garden competitions, carnivals and treasure hunts. Jim Crouch himself purchased "The Gippsland" from Sydney (NSW) for the purpose of transporting people to the island.



House being transported from Bulimba to Bishop Island. 1930s



Cruises to Bishop Is-

Bishop Island 1970s  
Port in background

Bishop Island had fulfilled Captain Bishop's dream of becoming a "Pleasure Resort". Private boats and tourist operators visited for public events, such as sand garden competitions, carnivals and treasure hunts. Jim Crouch himself purchased "The Gippsland" from Sydney (NSW) for the purpose of transporting people.



Dance Pavilion on Bishop Island



In October 1950, Bishop Island was found to be eroding and the centre was sinking. A wall was constructed using rock from the Kangaroo Point.

The Port of Brisbane used the island from 1976. As the Port reclaimed land, in the early 2000 Bishop Island became part of the mainland. The island is no more.



Recreational Cabins on Bishop Island 1930s to 1940s

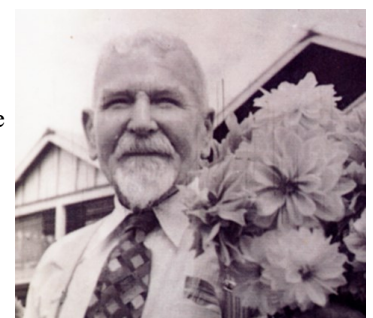


A bridge linking Whyte Island and Fisherman Islands was dedicated to the memory of Captain Bishop in 2000. A second Captain Bishop bridge has been added to cope with the daily traffic to and from the Port.

Captain Bishop continued his work in the Brisbane River until 1917. The "Hercules" was dismantled in 1937 and her machinery kept in storage. The main engine and powerful pump were installed at the new Cairncross Dock in 1944. The hulk was towed across to North Stradbroke Island in 1952 to be used as an oyster farm facility but the venture was not successful. Captain Bishop retired in 1931 and died at Stanthorpe in 1950. He is buried in Bulimba Cemetery (Plot 17, Allotment 143).

The three channels into Moreton Bay from the Brisbane River,

'Francis Channel', to the left, 'Koopa,' (or 'Old Bar Cutting') in the centre and 'Inner Bar Cutting', used today, to the lower left against Bishop Island with its wrecks.



Captain Bishop retired, with his dahlias, at Stanthorpe

## What's On! October - November 2023

Date	Event	Venue	Booking
Friday 20 October 10 - 11 am	“A new Home Abroad”. The Italian Migration Story	Qld National Archives 16 Corporate Drive Cannon Hill	Free Book: 3249 4200
Thursday 26 October 10.00am	“50 Years of Champions” The History of the Wynnum PCYC Amateur Cycling Club.	Wynnum Public Library 145 Florence Street Wynnum	Free Book: 3403 2199
Saturday 4 November 10.00am	“Meals on Wheels” 50 years Matt Webster	Ashgrove Public Library 87 Amarina Ave, Ashgrove	Book: 3366 4621
Wednesday 8 November 12.30pm	“One City. 2 Venues.” The Albert and Mayne Halls. (Royal Qld Historical Society)	Commissariat Store 115 William Street City	Members Free Visitors \$10 Book: Eventbrite
Until April 2024 MF 9am- 8pm SS 10am-5pm	“Purpose Built Architecture for a Better Tomorrow”  Exhibition	State Library Stanley Place South Brisbane	Book for a free Tour: 3840 7666
Thursday 30 November 10 - 11am	“The History of Wynnum Shire Clerk Cottage”	Wynnum Public Library 145 Florence Street Wynnum	Free Book: 3403 2199
9 Jan to 31 Dec 2023. 8.30 - 4.30pm	“Criminal Law. Then, Now and Tomorrow” Exhibition.	Sir Harry Gibbs Legal Centre, Ground Floor, QEII Court of Law, 415 George Street City	Free. All are welcome.
20 May to 21 Jan 2024 10 - 5.00pm	“Gon’ Fishing” Indigenous Artists work that confirms this cultural, social and recreational activity.	Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) Stanley Place, South Bne.	Free. 3840 7303

### 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 21 September 2023

**Meeting opened** at 7.20pm

There were 27 members present with 5 apologies and 5 visitors - the Laakso family, Gwen Brewer and Alexandra Givney.

President, Lucy Laakso took the chair, welcomed everybody, introduced herself, let the visitors introduce themselves and formally introduced Alexandra Givney, the Lord Mayors Representative for Wynnum Manly.

Michael Beard had researched and presented 3 events that occurred in Wynnum/Manly 100years ago.

**Previous Minutes:** (Jill)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 17 August 2023 were accepted by Su Laakso seconded by Chris Seymour.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Jill)

Cash Management A/C No. 20139708, Bus Web Saver A/C No. 21781280 and Term Investment A/c 23366345.

All Accounts: At 1 August 2023: \$30,065.52.

At 31 August 2023: **\$30,529.53**

Each A/C at 31 August 2023

Websaver A/c \$7,998.48

Building \$7,531.05

Fxd Term Deposit \$15,000.00

Approved at the Committee Meeting: 7 September 2023.

**TOTAL \$30,529.53**

**Correspondence Report** (Lena) 1 to 31 August 2023. The correspondence was accepted and endorsed at the committee meeting held on Thursday 7 September 2023.

**Resource Centre:** (Jill)

This month, the "Where am I" photograph was a view of the toilet block behind the Masonic Temple in Tingal Road. A request was made for the name of a professional computer 'guru' to give advice, organise and upgrade the Resource Room computer.

**Website Report** (Chris Seymour). The website has been moved onto a WIX platform and is now being updated.

**Main Speaker.** Member Sue Laakso described the processes she undertook to discover the history of both her land and house, built in Carlton Terrace. Then she had sought the names of the owners and/or occupants of the house, their occupations and incidents in their day to day lives.

**Lucky Door:** Gwen Brewer **Raffle:** Darryn Sibley "Winter Warmers" (Donated by Lena):

Meeting closed 8.50pm and members were invited to partake of refreshments, aided by Lena McCreadie and Margaret Collins. Jill Greenhill (Minute Secretary)

We thank our Patron, Joan Pease and Councilor Sara Whitmee,  
for their ongoing encouragement and support.

"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners - the Quandamooka People - and the land on which we operate.  
We pay our respects to Elders, past and present."

## **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, Jill Greenhill, Myrtle Beitz, Ellen Coupland, Chris Seymour.

**Meetings:** 7.00pm for 7.15pm. 3rd Thursday of the Month (except December and January)  
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