

Cambridge Parade Manly C 1920

Wynnum Manly

Historical Society Inc

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

www.wmhs.org.au

AN 49 071 835 845



NEWSLETTER October 2026 Vol. 18. No. 7 (186)

October General Meeting

Thursday 15th October 2026

Ambulance Auditorium

Corner Cedar St and Tingal Rd Wynnum

6.45pm for 700pm start

**We welcome
Amber Bolton
to tell us about the 100 Years
of
"Manly Baths"**



Looking out to the Bay. 1920s

Raffle

Lucky Door

Refreshments

Gold Coin Donation

Visitors Welcome

Kindly printed by the office of
Kara Cook MP.

Speaker - Amber Bolton

The idea of Manly Baths, which recently celebrated 100 years of service, was initiated by the Wynnum Town Council, but officially opened on 25 September 2026 by Ald William Jolly, Lord Mayor of the newly formed Greater Brisbane Council.

Early construction was on the water as a tidal saltwater pool. Seawater was pumped into the pool during high tide, about twice a week. Water clarity depended on the weather and wind stirring up the bay mud. Many upgrades to the pool and its surround have occurred over the years

Cost was 6d (5 cents) per half day. Everybody had to exit the pool at midday, before paying again for the afternoon.

Amer has been facility Manager at the Pool for the last four years. Prior to that she was the fitness manager. In October 2019 Amber organised a Guinness World Record with 270 people attending an Aqua Aerobics session.

WHMS Membership 2027

The Membership fees are due for payment on **1 January 2027** and will be remaining at **\$25 per adult** (or \$40 per household.)

You can pay at the October meeting or any weekday at the Resource Centre.

Danny.



Christmas is coming . . .

Only one more meeting before our Monster Xmas raffle.

Again, we are seeking contributions. Please could you deliver your spare Christmas Fare to the next meeting, or to the Resource Centre –

(Mon-Friday 10am to Noon)

Many Thanks

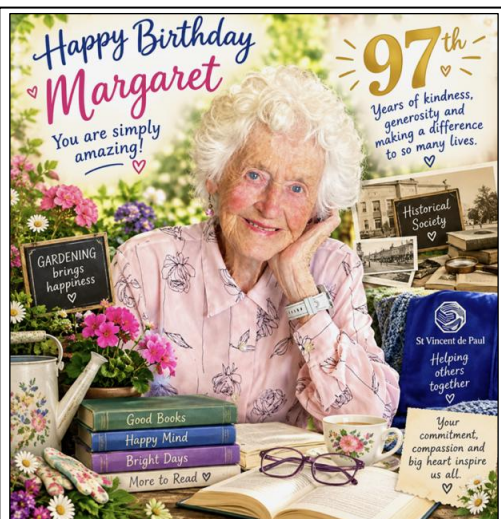
THE NEXT Bring and Buy sale is on

Thursday 15 October 2026

Please bring a Donation, and buy a treat to take back home.



Thank you.



A recent birthday! Margaret is one of our most valuable members, and still a volunteer in the Resource Centre on Tuesdays.

Card designed by Elma O'Toole

A Trophy Brooch

This brooch, which I have, was made as a trophy for a 1915 Wynnum and Manly Sailing Club Regatta. The inscription reads "W&MSC Ladies Race.



2nd Prize. Presented by C A Stone. Won by Miss F Smith. "Flora" 12.02.1915."

The jeweller, Ray Scott, went away to fight in Europe soon after the race but married "Miss F. Smith" when he returned. Flora Scott was a neighbour in the 1960s, and I remember her saying that the name of the boat was special, made up of the first part of both their names: Florence and Raymond. Flora gave the brooch to my mother and I have inherited it.

Myrtle



A modern presentation of History

Katrina and Georgina came into the Resource Room several months ago to check up on the history of St Helena Island.

Last week Katrina came in again and presented the Society with their latest book, "The Pesky Prisoners of St Helena Island". On the title page is stated "For the History Buffs, the History Haters and every Kid who thinks school is like a prison".

Cartoon pictures are on most pages, words are few but clearly describe the conditions of the day. The reports include talking birds, survival tips, comic strips interspersed with true historical facts.

The book is in the Resource Room.

New Manly Baths

Telegraph (Brisbane, Queensland 1872 – 1947), Wed 16 June 1926, page 5.

The Bridges and Ferries Committee recommended that the new swimming pool at Manly be provided with a concrete floor instead of one of sand which would constantly be stirred up and would settle at the deep end. The cost was estimated at £413.12s. Alderman Prentice said the money would come out of the Wynnum loan, which was floated prior to the absorption of the Council. The report was adopted.



Till next Time
Jill

“Laggan House”

Gumdale Historical Museum

A lovingly restored Depression-era tin shed. Located in the grounds of Gumdale Progress hall at 737 New Cleveland Road, Gumdale.

Opens 1st Saturday of every month(except Dec and Jan.)



Saturday 7 November 2026

Final Open Day for 2026

Open again on

Saturday 6 February 2027



‘Wellington Point’. Painted by Anne Curtis.

Donated by Sue Curtis, her daughter.

Recently, Sue Curtis kindly donated this painting to the Society.

As the painting shows a landscape in the Redland Shire, we asked Redland Museum if they would like to accept the donation.

This week we received the OK, that the painting will be accepted with pleasure! We are trying to contact Sue Curtis for more details. Can anybody help to contact Sue?

At the September meeting of the Society, member, Chris Seymour, presented

“The Hunters of Moreton Bay”.

The Indigenous inhabitants of Moreton Bay, the Quandamooka People, supplemented their diet with protein from dugongs and marine turtles. Dugongs, sometimes called sea-cows, are closely related to manatees, which live on coasts around the Atlantic Ocean. Dugongs and manatees are the only marine mammals that live exclusively on plants. Dugongs grazed on the sea grass beds which line Moreton Bay and were once more extensive. The Quandamooka caught their prey by chasing them into shallow water and then catching them in large heart-shaped nets woven from vines.



Illustration from a 1913 Sydney newspaper of Dugong Hunting in Moreton Bay.

When Europeans arrived, they also hunted dugongs, for both oil and their meat. A large dugong can provide 150 Kg of meat and 20 litres of oil. The earliest record of commercial dugong hunting dates to 1847. In 1852 Queensland Chief Medical Officer Dr William Hobbs became convinced that Dugong oil had powerful medicinal properties. He established a dugong processing plant on St Helena Island and promoted the oil as a cure for tuberculosis at the 1855 Paris exhibition. Dugong hunting continued into the 20th century and dugong meat was sold on the Wynnum Fish market – especially in the depression years. Declining numbers led to a ban on dugong hunting in 1969. Aboriginal groups were permitted small scale hunting for cultural purposes.

Turtles were another source of protein for the Quandamooka. Six of the seven species of marine turtle in the world are found in Moreton Bay. The commonest are the Green Turtles – so called because their diet of sea grass turns their fat green in colour. Brisbane is unique among world cities in having so many species of turtle at close hand.

Turtles were sold on the Wynnum fish market in the 1930s. There were several canning factories in Brisbane which exported turtle soup and turtle meat to the world. As well as food, turtles were hunted for their shells. Before the widespread use of plastics many common articles, like hairbrushes and spectacles, incorporated turtle shell in their design. The demand for turtles again caused a large drop in their numbers. Queensland banned the taking of green turtles in 1950, and the other species were fully protected in 1968.

The Quandamooka people did not actively hunt whales. Occasionally one would beach and provide a bonus source of meat. After World War 2 the Australian government wanted to promote whale hunting. An experienced Norwegian hunter, Captain Alf Melson, was hired to plan the industry. He chose Moreton Island as being the best site because of the whale migrations, the proximity to Brisbane and the availability of fresh water. In 1952 the Tangalooma station was set up – with three whaling ships from Norway and 51 experienced Norwegian whalers. Spotter planes were used to track the whales. Over the ten years of operation the station processed 6,207 whales. However, sustainability was again an issue. In the last year of operation, 1962, only 62 whales were caught, making the station uneconomic.

The whaling industry attracted many sharks. Boats towing captured whales back to the station would be surrounded by large sharks. The sharks in turn attracted shark hunters. One prominent shark hunter was radio and TV personality Bob Dyer. He would come up from Sydney in his boat Tennessee 2. Some of his catches still hold the record for the largest sharks ever caught.



BAYSIDE SPRING FESTIVAL

12 & 13 SEPTEMBER

GEORGE CLAYTON PARK, MANLY

The weather was perfect for a family outing. Many residents soaked up the festival atmosphere while watching dance performances or listening to music by local groups.

Sunday, 13 September was designated to Community Day as part of Bayside Spring Festival. The society was given a location next to the performance stage which had a high foot traffic of the festival. The historical displays had a good exposure to members of community and were the target of their mobile phones.

The Society presented the history of Wynnum Spring Festival which originated in 1926 as a fundraising event towards funding a centre for the ambulance in Wynnum.

Several visitors shared their own stories of former Spring Parades and even found an old friend in the photos of the Festival Queens. Young families, the majority of the visitors, enjoyed participating in the History Quiz consisting of simple multiple-choice questions about the history of Wynnum.



The Society Stall, situated next to the stage.

It was lovely to see young children challenge the quiz with help from their parents. The winner was offered a free family membership for a year.

All in all, it was a great opportunity to showcase what we do to the community.

We owe special thanks to our volunteers, Rosie, Sue, Barry, Paul, Colleen, Ian, Penny and Judy for the success of the day.

Chiharu Tsurutani

Willard's Farm, Birkdale

302 Old Cleveland Road East Birkdale Qld.



Tours are held fortnightly on Wednesdays. Session lasts one hour.
Cost \$10. Book through Redlands Performing Arts Centre (RPAC)
3829 8131

Just outside our area, but not too far to drive to, is this a recently restored heritage farmhouse, opened to the public on 17 April 2026 by the Redland City Council. Council bought the site in 2016 to prevent the development of a residential housing estate, and to anchor the 62-hectare site for the Birkdale Community Precinct.

The dairy farm was established in the 1860s by pioneers James and Margaret (Jones) Willard. Eleven children were born. Features are the farmhouse (The Pines), a milking shed, cream shed, and an historical well. Take the full guided tour to learn more!

There have been several queries asking about this Ghost.
Here is an account written by Myrtle in 2010.

Hannah, the Ghost of Lota House



Painting by Ed Davenport

On the 9 December 2010 I sat with a member of staff from Spiritus at the Christmas party of The Friend's of Lota House. Spiritus is the governing body of the Anglican Church in charge of community services such as the E.M. Tooth Memorial Home, which includes Lota House. This staff member told me of the experience she and another staff member of Spiritus had the previous week when they saw Hannah the ghost standing at the turn of the internal steps of Lota House. Her co-worker was deeply disturbed by the sighting. The staff member described Hannah the ghost as a tall lady dressed in black. What a coincidence that our friend Hannah from Spiritus and the ghost have the same name.

This conversation prompted me to contact Jane Grieves, a descendant of William Duckett White whom I have met on a couple of occasions. Jane had previously told me many snippets of her time as a child when visiting her grandmother at Lota House. I told Jane of this sighting of Hannah the ghost.

Jane Grieve's great-great grandfather was William Duckett White, the builder of Lota House in 1863. His daughter Helena married Graham Mylne. Their son, also Graham, was the father of Jane's mother and Jane and her siblings were raised at Lota. Jane was the 17th grandchild

and remembers staying at Lota House. Jane's cousin Min saw the ghost as a child – a tall woman in a black gown with a hood, coming out of the small bedroom to the right of the top of the stairs. Min thinks she was a young lady who died in childbirth. Jane's grandmother was State President of the Country Women's Association (CWA) and helped women in that situation. Jane presumes that the ghost, Hannah, was an unmarried pregnant girl who most probably would have been sent from the country to the CWA Home in Grace Street Lota. Jane's older cousin, Julia, may know more and also her mum's sister Ness, who is still alive, but unfortunately has dementia.

So, the ghost, Hannah, does not seem to be a member of the White family, but someone who was in need of friendship in a difficult time in her life and thus cared for by Helena Mylne. I have been associated with The Friends of Lota House since 1990 and over the years other staff members of the Home have said to me there have been sightings of a ghost and I have just put the idea to one side thinking that people like to have ghost stories connected with old homes.

Written by Myrtle Beitz December 2010

What's On!

Sept/Oct 2026

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	Booking
Wed 14 October 2026 12.30pm	"Justice metered out to Japanese War Criminals"	RHSQ Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, City	Non-Members \$10. Inq. 3221 4198
Until 18 October 2026 Open 10 – 3pm (not Mon or Tues)	'Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards' Exhibition	Redcliff Museum 75 ANZAC Ave Redcliff	Free
Weds 21 Oct or Wed 1 November.2026 9 or 11.30am \$10	Recently restored, "Willards Farm Tour".	302 Old Cleveland Rd East, Birkdale.	Buy ticket at Redland Perf. Arts Centre, or phone 3829 8131
Sat 24 October 2026 6-8.30 pm Doors open at 5.30pm	"Finding Irish Magic" The power of Music and Storytelling.	Redland Coast Museum 60 Smith Street, Cleveland	Irish Kitchen Supper box from \$40. Ph. 3286 3494
Tuesday 27 October 2026. 10am On-Line.	<u>On-Line</u> "Keeping family Collections Safe."	Contact: <i>marketing@info.naa.gov.au</i>	Reserve a place at <i>market@info.naa.gov.au</i>
7 days per week. 90 min climb.	"Brisbane Story Bridge Adventure Night Climb"	5 Boundary St City. Howard Smith Wharves (next to Betty's Burgers).	\$160 each. Book online.

Publications for Sale

"Ride around Wynnum, Manly and Lota"	WMHS Publication	Donation
"Mangroves to Moorings – Revisited"	Beitz, Myrtle	\$35.00
"Lota House. Photos over 50 years"	Beitz, Myrtle	\$15.00
"Story of Lota House"	Beitz, Myrtle	Donation
"Church Buildings in Wynnum, Manly and Lota".	WMHS Publication.	Donation
"The Heritage Guide" Over 90 sites to explore .	Brisbane Living Heritage.	Free

Highlights from the Committee Meeting Thursday 1 October 2026

- * Two Committee apologies.
- * Membership to be \$25 per annum, due on 1 January 2027
- * Membership applications, received from Paul Wilson and Alma Cao, were accepted. Membership stands at 79 persons.
- * New members who have paid full rate for application after 1 October 2026 will now be a paid-up members for 2027.
- * Donations for the Annal Monster Christmas Raffles (drawn at the final meeting for 2026, in November) will be sought at the October meeting and in the Newsletter. Goods can be received any day at the Resource Centre (10am to Noon).
- * The publishing program "Publisher", introduced in September 1991 and used for the WMHS, was retired by Microsoft on 1 October 2026. So, there may be a few changes to the presentation of the newsletter!
- * Speaker for October meeting is Amer Bolton, Manager of Manly Pool.
- * The Grant application from Kara Cook for \$2,000 towards the development of a professional website, has been successful. The Society proposes to explore several relevant consultants to seek ways to meet our objectives. The indicative budget for this work is \$4,000.
- * An audit of the state of repair of historical plaques, mounted by WMHS in recent years around Wynnum Manly, has been completed by Tom and Danny. This resulted in 3 plaques, those at Norfolk Point, Wyvernleigh and the Old Post Office found to be needing repair. James Warner (in Lions Park near the Shire Cottage) and Memorials to Servicemen (at the gates of W.S.H. School) need some attention. Suitable contractors will be sourced for quotes.



"We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners - the Quandamooka People - and custodians of the land on which we operate. We pay our respects to Elders, past and present and emerging. We recognize their connection to Country and role in caring for and maintaining Country over tens of thousands of years."

Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc.

Contact: Secretary: 0477 722 394

Email: secretary.wmhs@gmail.com

Bank of Queensland at BSB: 124 012 A/C20139708 (Society) A/C 21781280 (Resource Centre)

Meetings: 6.45 for 7.00pm. 3rd Thursday of the month (except Dec and Jan)
in Queensland Ambulance Museum Auditorium, Corner Tingal Road and Cedar Street,
Wynnum.

Resource Centre: Room 1.08, 105 Florence Street, Wynnum Q. 4178
Open Weekdays 10am-noon (Excp. Pub Holidays)
Librarian: Jill.

We thank our patrons

Joan Pease



and
Alex Givney



for their ongoing
encouragement and
support.

We thank our
Sponsors and
Donors.



Bunnings



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Ede's Salon



"Taste the Aroma"