



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

## March 2025

## Issue. No. 169

### March General Meeting

**THURSDAY 20 March 2025**

6.45 pm for 7.00pm start

Wynnum Ambulance Auditorium  
Corner Tingal Road / Cedar Street

### **"Moura Mine Disaster" 1994**

told by Member  
**Chris Seymour**

from his  
first-hand experience  
in  
managing the aftermath  
of the  
Incident.

Raffle

Lucky Door

Refreshments

Gold Coin Donation

Visitors welcome

### Annual General Meeting 2025

Thursday 17 April 2025

Ambulance Museum Auditorium  
Cnr Tingal Road / Cedar Street Wynnum  
Approx. 7.30pm

Nomination Forms for the Committee are in the  
Resource Room and on line.



#### **Christopher Seymour**

Chris graduated from University of Newcastle on Tyne, England in 1968 with a Mining and Mineral Engineering Degree. He continued his studies and obtained a Masters Degree in Mining Economics from Imperial College London in 1971.

The next 12 years were spent with Utah International on projects in Australia, Colombia Chile, China. USA and South Africa.

In 1994 Chris came to Australia with BHP Ltd to manage the aftermath of the 1994 Moura disaster. He started up the Mt Owen Mine and turned Crinum Mine around to one of Australia's most productive mines.

After 28 years with BHP, Chris set up and built "Automated Positioning Systems P/L", a high tech company supplying high precision guidance systems for mining equipment. The firm was sold in 2014.

Chris is now Principal of "Safety Scenario" providing consulting and training services.

Chris has great interest in art, particularly photography, and in the treasures within St John's Cathedral.



The Next Bring and Buy is on  
**Thursday 20 March 2025.**

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

Most items: \$1 or \$2 or \$3

Thank you for your contributions . . .

# Resource Centre

# February 2025

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)

## Wynnum Community Centre—Tenant’s Meeting

The meeting was held on Thursday 13 March in Room 2.0. Chair was M Stubbings. Manager of the Legal Services Team.

Aim: To discuss and suggest solutions to current problems:

- Antisocial behavior of people congregating at the front of the building
- Lack of maintenance of the building.

Suggestions:

- Police be notified of behavior outside the building as this is a public space.
- BCC be notified of concerns regarding the dirt and shabbiness of the building, of concerns regarding entry to the building and litter and debris in the grounds.

Jules of the Legal Services is preparing a document to be sent to Brisbane City Council on behalf of all Tenants.

## An envelope was pushed under the door . . .

David Huggonson of Lota is researching two of the State’s early professional photographers Walter Eustace Perroux and his son Francis Xavier Perroux..

David’s interest in the photographers is that his great / great grandfather is in a photo taken by Walter Perroux. (See story on page 5.)

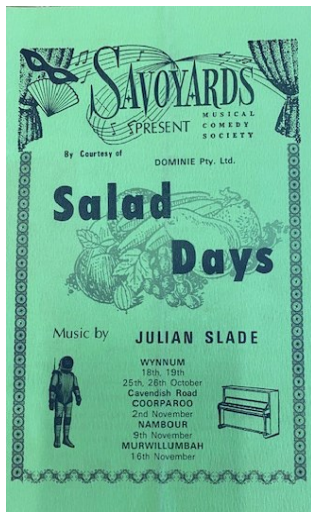
Son, Francis Perroux eventually came and lived in Wynnum and opened a photographic studio in Florence Street.

Francis Perroux died in 1976.

Has anybody been photographed by Francis, or has any recollection of the family, or is aware of any existing family members in the district?

Please let us know.

## Theatre Programs.



Were you an amateur dramatic performer in the past?

Julie and Phillip Jeffries came in last week with a large collection of Theatre programs from productions staged by Mercy, Harlequin and Savoyards Theatre Companies.

If you want to see your name in print come and have a look!

## Open Days for 2025

For those persons who are seeking information, but are unable to visit the Resource Room on weekdays, the following dates are when the Centre will open over a weekend.

The hours will be from 10am to Noon.

Saturday	22nd March 2025
Sunday	29th June 2025
Saturday	30th August 2025
Sunday	2nd November 2025

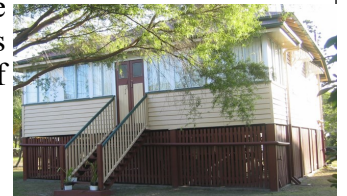
## Our Reticulated Water Supply

Julie, who kindly brought in the theatre programs, had another tale to tell . . . .

Tap water arrived in Wynnum in 1921. The Roles family sold 3 acres of their land, between Manly Road, Daisy Street and Preston Road to the Wynnum Town Council Water Board. The Qld State Government provided water from Somerset Dam for £25,000. The first water tank was built along the side Preston of Road.

The tank was partly underground and had to be regularly cleaned out. A “Turncock” was employed to maintain the operation of the site and an on-site high-set cottage was supplied as part of the job.

30 Preston Road  
Still standing!



The first Turncock was Charles Edward Severns in 1923, followed by his son George Severns. These persons were the grandfather then the father of Julie Jeffries (nee Severns).

Please Send Research Queries to

*jillg01@tpg.co.au*

Till next time

Jill Greenhill (Information Officer)

## Where was I?

February 2024



Fox Street, Wynnum



The Hotel has gone!

Built in the late 1870s as the Hasting Hotel, the timber building was demolished around 1910 to be replaced with a brick construction.

The Fisher family took up residence in 1914 and three generations were licensees of the Wynnum Hotel until an Auction Sale in 1989.

After several name changes the property was sold in 1913 and a four storied apartment block is constructed on the site.



1913. The empty site on the corner of Fox Street

## Where am I?

March 2025



A contribution from member, Peter Cumming.

Till next Time

Jill



Here is a summary of the presentation given by Speaker Aunty Becky (Rebecca Thompson), on Thursday 20 February 2025, prepared by member, Chiharu Tsurutani.

Aunty Becky (Rebecca Thompson), Chair of the Winnam Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Corporation gave us a talk about Australian indigenous culture, language and life style. This was the first time we have heard from a First Nations presenter. The contents of her talk will be shared with readers below.

Aunty Becky is an elder for the Quandamooka people. These are the First Nation people who live in the Bayside area around Moreton Bay. (The map below shows where the Quandamooka people are located). Auntie Becky was born on the mainland and raised in Wynnum. She is from an athletic family, where her father, Archie Newfong was a Queensland boxing champion and her mother Edna Newfong (nee Crouch) represented Queensland in Ladies cricket. Her uncle had a bike shop on Tingal Road which one of our members had a fond memory of the shop.

The traditional owners of Quandamooka country are three tribes, *Gorunpul* (Dunwich and southern Stradbroke Island (Minjerriba), *Nunukul* (Amity point) and *Ngugi* (Moreton Island).



Myrtle and Aunty Becky

The language of Quandamooka is Jandai. Some of us are familiar with the greeting, *Yura* (Hello/Welcome) or *Yuway* (Good-bye).

Traditional ceremonies such as Bunya Festival, Dugong hunting and Corroborees (Blacks Camp in Wynnum North is well known to locals) have been held for centuries on this land.



Aunty Becky often shows school children how Aboriginal people travelled to festival celebrations on foot and exchanged goods, stories and music. One of the creation stories she shared with us was *Wail (Whale) rock*, which can be found at Point Lookout on Minjerriba. According to the legend, an Aboriginal woman who was thought to bring misery and misfortune to tribes was abandoned by her people to a rock on the coast. It is called *Wail rock* as the Aboriginal woman's cries can be heard on a windy night. The knowledge of traditional food, hunting activities have been passed down from generation to generation and contributed to the survival of colonial settlers. For example, Aboriginal fishermen can tell when fishing seasons start, or when to harvest crops

from the sign in nature. We appreciated Anty Becky's visit and the opportunity to learn about the long history and tradition which goes beyond 200 years.... yes, actually beyond 21,000 years.

Thank you Chiharu for filling in at short notice and preparing this informative report.

## Our Pioneers - Now resting in Hemmant Cemetery

**Stephen Popham** (1827 – 1891) and son **William Popham** (1852 - 1924) Monumental A.4.8

**Hannah Cottrell Popham** (1828 – 1888) and son **Simon Popham** (1859 - 1928) Monumental A.3.8

**Stephen Popham** (1827 - 1891) was born in Somerset, England. He married Hannah COTTRELL (1828 - 1888) daughter of John COTTRELL and Honor STAR, also of Somerset, at St Andrew's Cheddar, Somerset in 1858. Their first child, a daughter, Emma born in Somerset.

On 13 October 1858 the family left Plymouth on the “*British Empire*” and arrived at Moreton Bay on 5 February 1859. They were amongst the first free settlers at Hemmant. Son Simon, was born on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1859, son William, born on 17<sup>th</sup> November 1860 and daughter Maria born 26 October 1865.

Stephen was an horticulturalist and grew fruit and vegetables and made wine. His produce was taken to the Brisbane markets by boat, as the Hemmant area was isolated, the first wooden bridge not being built over Bulimba Creek until 1888.

In 1867 the first meeting of the Tingalpa Board of the East Moreton Farmers Association was held in the recently opened Hemmant State School (1864 - 2010). A resolution was passed to grow sugar cane and Stephen Popham agreed to grow ½ acre. In 1872 Stephen was a subscriber to the “Doughboy Sugar Company Limited”, holding 30 shares. Cultivation of sugarcane was discontinued around Hemmant by 1883 due to rust and disease and transferred northwards to more suitable climatic conditions around Bundaberg and Central Queensland. By 1888 Stephen was farming 20 acres including vines and fruit growing

Stephen became involved in local Government and was a member of the Roads Committee in 1868. On 4 November 1868 he is recorded as donating £1 at the opening of Christ Church, Tingalpa.

Eldest daughter, Emma Popham married John Mumford on 17<sup>th</sup> September in 1874. John had arrived in Moreton Bay in 1863 in the “Wantana” and settled at Lytton, then moved and opened grocery store at Coorparoo with his brother Edward.

On 4<sup>th</sup> June 1890 daughter Maria married George Wright. They had 2 sons, Harold Sydney (b 20.04.1893) who went to Melbourne and Malcolm of South Brisbane.

Stephen Popham, aged 65 years died on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1891. His Will was written 1890. He gave Probate to sons William and Simon Popham and John Mumford, his Son-in-law. He gave his land as follows:

Portion 19 Subdivisions 158 and 159 to daughter Marie Wright

Portion 20 Subdivision 2 to son William

Portion 20 Subdivisions. 1 and 3 to son Simon



*Stephen and William  
Monumental A.4.8*

**William Popham**, Stephen's youngest son became a member of the Hemmant School committee in 1891. In 1895 at the Balmoral Division Board Elections, for No 3 Sub Division, William won the majority vote against Kelly/  
William died on 14 June 1924 and is buried with his father at Hemmant.

Eldest son, **Simon Popham** remained a farmer and presented, “2 giant sweet potatoes in Auction Rooms on June 3 1911”.  
Simon died on 27 October 1928 and is buried with his mother Hannah.



*Hannah and Simon  
Monumental A.3.8*

Youngest daughter Maria (Wright) died in 1937 and is buried at Hemmant, with her husband George Wright.



*Maria and George (Mon A.7.8)*



## Visit: Our Local Heritage Places



### See inside Wynnum's Shire Clerks Cottage during Market Days

241 Tingal Road, Wynnum

Saturday 12 April 2025, Saturday 21 June 2025, Saturday 16 August 2025

Saturday 18 October 2025, Saturday 6 December 2025

Morning Tea on the Verandah of the cottage.

### The Perroux Family Pioneer Photographers in Rural Queensland

Walter Ernest Perroux (1864 -1921) and his son Francis Xavier Perroux(1900 -1976)

**Walter Eustace Perroux** was born in 1864 at Burdwan about 160 km outside Calcutta in India. His French parents managed a jute plantation. He came to Queensland when he was 17 years of age. Walter was a saddler by trade and gained employment with Swanson Brothers of Mackay. In his spare time he developed a keen interest in photography and eventually purchased the photographic business of Mathieson and Company located in Mackay.

*Mackay, Sydney Street*

Walter travelled all over north and central western Queensland photographing everything from mineral development at Mt Elliott and Selwyn to cattle sales at Longreach and the departure of the troops from Townsville in August 1914. The Queensland newspaper paid him for his photographic work and he sold portraits of local citizens. He advertised a free enlargement with every dozen portraits purchased.

Walter married Catherine Elizabeth Gaffney on 2 January 1882. The couple had four sons and two daughters. Their eldest son, Francis Xavier Perroux took over his father's Bowen photographic studio in 1922. Walter had operated out of 7 studios during his 30 year career, in Mackay, Toowoomba Bundaberg, Childers, Roma, Warwick and Bowen. Walter died on 15 November 1921.

**Francis Xavier Perroux** took over his father's Bowen photographic studio in 1921 having lost his studio in East Street Rockhampton in a fire in 1919. However he sold all his furniture in Cairns in August 1922 and moved south to live in Wynnum. The Brisbane Courier published his photographs of the district on 5 June 1928. Like most photojournalists of the era he would have used a Graflex camera, which was the quintessential press camera for over 50 years.

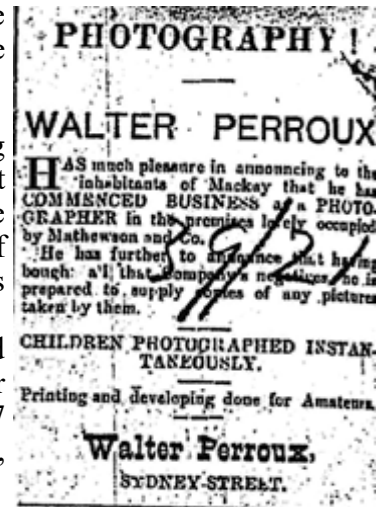
During the Great Depression, like many small businessmen, Francis was forced into bankruptcy in October 1933. He was living in Florence Street Wynnum South (Central) at the time of the court case.

Francis died in 1976 aged 76 years. The Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) in South Brisbane holds two of his photographs of Rockhampton, dated 1905. The State Library of Queensland holds over twenty photographs of Walter Perroux in their online digitized collection and a number of Queensland Pictorial Supplements produced by Francis. This father and son produced a number of photographs, which were to become extremely useful to students of Queensland history.

Author, David Huggonson, lives in Lota. He became interested in the Perroux photographers because a number of the photographs, taken by Walter at Mt Perry Copper Mines in February 1906, included a picture of Dave Todd, who was David's grandfather. W E Perroux used flashlights with, most likely, magnesium to capture the miners using rock drills underground in the stopes of the Kennedy mine.

David would be very pleased to receive any further information about the Perroux Family of Wynnum.

Please let me know!



#### MEMBERSHIP FOR 2025

**Memberships were due for renewal  
on 1 January 2025.**

No rise in fees for 2025.

**Individual - \$25 pa. Household - \$40 pa.**

\$15 for Newsletter if you prefer a printed copy.

#### How to make payment:

Either seal the **cash in an envelope** and write your details on the front:

- Hand in at a General Meeting OR at the Resource Centre, open Monday to Friday 10am to Noon. OR
- Pay into the Bank of Queensland  
BSB: 124 012  
Ac/No.: 20139708  
Ac/Name: Wynnum Manly Historical Society  
Reference: Your Name and 'Sub 2025'

# What's On!

# March / April 2025

Date	Event	Venue	Booking
Sat. 15 March 8:30 – 10 am	New Farm Walking Tour: Oxlade Drive and Beyond.	Meet at the bus stop adjacent to the New Farm Park Ferry Terminal.	Gerard Benjamin Ph: 0409 582 830
Sun. 23 March 11am -12pm	Meet Suzi Smeed, Holocaust survivor and author.	Queensland Holocaust Museum 168 - 172 Charlotte Street, City	\$5.00 - Museum Admission. Ph: 4698 2985
Thurs. 27 March 10 -11am	“Researching History of your House.”	Wynnum Library 145 Florence Street Wynnum	Free Book: Ph: 3403 2194
Sat. 29 March 10 - 11am	Join Steve MinOn, author of “First Name, Second Name”. This novel is the story of a dead man trying to recover his lost identity.	Wynnum Library 145 Florence Street Wynnum	Free -Register on the library website.  Book on Eventbrite
Sat. 29 March 10 - 2.00 pm	“Museum Open Day“. A Rebrand Launch to celebrating our new look.	Redland Museum. 60 Smith Street Cleveland	Free Ph: 3286 3494
Wed, 9 April 12:30 - 1:30 pm	“Introducing the Queensland Atlas of Religion.” Presented by Associate Prof. Geoff Ginn.	Commissariat Store Museum 115 William Street City	\$10 RSVP Enq: Royal Historical Society of Queensland: Ph: 3221 4198
To 18 July 2025 9 - 4.30pm	“Winagaylay Ngiyani Ganunga”,Experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Service persons	Qld State Archives 435 Compton Road Runcorn	Free web@archives.qld .go v.au

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

“Stroll along the Foreshore.”	WMHS Publication	Donation
“Ride around Wynnum, Manly and Lota.”	WMHS Publication	Donation
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, 35 Tingal Road  
on Thursday 20 February 2025

### Meeting Opened at 7.10pm

There were 33 members present, and 10 visitors with 4 apologies.  
President Lucy Laakso took the chair, welcomed everybody and acknowledged country. She acknowledged all members and visitors.  
Sue Laakso read articles from the newspapers describing the happenings of Wynnum 100 years ago.

**Previous Minutes:** Minutes of previous meeting of Thursday 21 November 2024 were accepted by Danny Fitzpatrick and seconded by Tom Schulz.

### Treasurer's report: (Danny)

#### All accounts:

At 30 Nov 2024: \$37,096.14

At 31 Jan 2025: \$38,296.11

#### Each a/c at 31 January 2025

Everyday \$4,324.52

Building \$1,479.58

Fxd. Term Deposits \$32,492.01

**TOTAL \$38,296.11**

**Correspondence Report:** (Elma) The report, presented for Nov 2024 to Jan 2025, was accepted and endorsed at the committee meeting held on Thursday 13 February 2025.

**Resource Centre:** (Jill) Updated everyone on what has been happening at the Centre.

**Where Am I ?** (Jill): 2 flower pots? These were on Fox Street outside Wynnum (Fisher's) Hotel. Jill gave a brief history of this hotel

**Website:** (Chris): Society Website is being kept up to date. Chris also spoke on the paper he is putting in to the Government on volunteering.

**Publicity:** Chiharu spoke on the sale of the cards and calendars.

**General:** Tom spoke about the Open Day and Official Opening of "Lindmere" the old Baptist church at Iona.

**Guest Speaker:** Rebecca Thomson, alias "Aunt Becky", spoke of her heritage, early fishing and the Crouch family.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm and members were invited to partake of supper aided by Lena, Ellen and Lorraine.



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

We thank our Patrons,  
Joan Pease



Joan Pease MP

Member for Lytton

and  
Alex Givney



for their ongoing  
encouragement and  
support

We thank our  
Sponsors and Donors  
*Bunnings*



Iona



*Cartridge World*



*Ede's Salon*



*Taste the Aroma*



Coles



## Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc

Postal Address: 9A Roseberry Parade, Wynnum West, Qld 4178

Email: secretary.wmhs@gmail.com Secretary: 0477 722 394

Committee: Lucy Laakso, Elma O'Toole, Danny Fitzpatrick, Jill Greenhill, Myrtle Beitz, Ellen Coupland, Chris Seymour, Tom Schultz and Chiharu Tsurutani.

Bank of Queensland at BSB:124012. Society Everyday A/C 20139708, Resource Centre A/C 21781280. plus 2Fx-Term.

Meetings: 6.45pm for 7.00pm. 3rd Thursday of the Month (except December and January)  
in Queensland Ambulance Auditorium, Cnr. Tingal Road and Cedar Street, Wynnum

Resource Centre: Room 1.08, 105 Florence Street, Wynnum Q 4178

Open Weekdays 10am - Noon (Excl. Public Holidays)

Librarian: Jill Greenhill jillg01@tpg.com.au 0407 293 177