

Wynnnum 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 September 2026 Vol. 18. No. 6 (185)

September General Meeting
Thursday 17 September 2026

Ambulance Auditorium
Corner Cedar St and Tingal Rd Wynnnum
6.45pm for 700pm start

"Hunters of Moreton Bay."

Dugongs, Turtles, Whales and Sharks.



Told to us by

Member

Chris Seymour

Raffle

Lucky Door

Refreshments

Gold Coin Donation

Visitors Welcome

President's Report

Hello Everyone

Well, "Spring has Sprung!" and the first week has given a pleasant early touch of Summer as a bonus. It is a wonderful time of year, new life as our dormant trees and gardens come back to colour, the cool evenings are good for getting out and about, longer days and still good sleeping weather.

Longer- term residents will remember that this time of year was also a time that the Wynnnum district held its Annual Spring Parade. This year, the Bayside Spring Festival (11-13 September), will attempt to bring back some of the wonderful memories of that event. Your Society will have a presence at the festival on the Sunday, as we are creating a stall to bring to locals and visitors, a small glimpse into the valuable role of the Society in locating and preserving Wynnnum's special history. Our display at the Festival will primarily focus on the history of the Spring Parade over the decades. Many thanks to our Committee member Chiharu for her work in leading this project and to the volunteers who have assisted in making this all happen. Sunday's program at the Festival, is dedicated to local Community groups, which like us, rely solely on their members and volunteers to do their essential work in the community.

Please note that our September monthly gathering will be held at our regular venue - Q.A.S. Museum cnr. Tingal Road and Cedar Street, Wynnnum Central and NOT at Lindum Mere at Iona College. This change was only made due to a sudden change in work commitments for our intended speaker, who will now present for us in early 2027. Details will be notified to members later this year. I apologise to members, if this late change will cause any inconvenience, but as stated, the change was late and unavoidable. Please see elsewhere in this Newsletter of details of the new presentation and I look forward to seeing you there. Bring a friend!

Until next time

Tom Schulz WMHS President"

THE NEXT Bring and Buy sale is on

Thursday 17 September 2026

Please bring a Donation

And take a treat to take home

Thank you.



Former member, the late **Neil Bishop** passed away in November 2025. He was one of Wynnum's well-known chemists and an active member of WMHS. Here are some memories of his life.

Neil belonged to what has been called the "Traditionalists" or Silent Generation (1928–1945). They valued security, loyalty, respect for authority and hard work. His childhood included both the Great Depression and World War II.

Neil always wanted to be a pharmacist and a missionary. He left school after Junior (now Year 10) and worked as a message boy for a year before being apprenticed to Fredrick David of 265 George Street, Brisbane (David Pharmacy under the old Lennons Hotel).

He studied at the Central Technical College (now QUT) in the mornings, worked in the pharmacy in the afternoons and on Saturday mornings, and all through the holidays. Neil qualified with a Diploma as a Pharmaceutical Chemist at age 20 in 1954. He then managed the same George Street store and handled the buying for the seven David Pharmacies in Brisbane city for another five years.



Neil's Special Mixture

Neil opened his own pharmacy, "Bishops", on the corner of Chestnut Street and Bay Terrace, Wynnum, in a new medical centre in 1962. He was 28. In those early days it was common to be called out over the weekend or late at night to dispense urgent medicines, often asthma sprays. He remembered a customer rang one Sunday morning wanting a packet of band-aids. Later the local pharmacists formed a group and opened the Wynnum After Hours Pharmacy. This stayed in operation till extended hours were introduced.

Neil loved dispensing, mixtures, lotions, creams, ointments, ear and eye drops, suppositories and baby teething powders. When he was an apprentice he made iron pills from the raw ingredients - mixing, rolling, cutting and rounding the pills, then polishing them. Neil had some special mixtures, creams and ointments. "Bishop's Drawing & Healing Ointment" was a great buy for Stradbroke Island fishermen, especially if they were pricked by fish fins or fishhooks.

In the early days bottles arrived in crates, often with cork stoppers, from Dodd's Bottle Works. Customers would return empty bottles and these were washed and reused. Recycling began a long time ago!

Neil married Pam (also a pharmacist) in 1967 and together they ran Bishops Pharmacy until selling and retiring in 2000 (a few months before GST commenced). He would cheekily tell people that "Pam was the brains and he was the nice guy!" During his 40 years the shop relocated twice when the doctor's surgery moved. The Wynnum Herald Business Achievers Awards was an annual event in the area. In 1999 Bishops "Healthsense" Pharmacy was inducted into the Hall of Fame after winning the Health Category for the third year in a row.

And yes, Neil did become a missionary when he joined a team to PNG in the 1970s, and then took many short trips to Indonesia over the next 30 years.



GEORGE CLAYTON PARK
11 – 13 September 2026

Community Day SUNDAY 13 September 2026 10am - 4pm

Come and find the Historical Society Stall.

See past Spring Festivals on the TV Screen

Reminisce on the historical past
of Wynnum/Manly

“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 3 October 2026

Featured Display:
Photo Albums and
Newspaper Clippings

A finding in TROVE

“Penny Train Fares.

Southside Residents’ Claim”

“The threatened tramway strike has not deterred residents of the south side of the river from airing a grievance. Passengers arriving at Melbourne Street station have to pay 2d. to be transported across the river to North Quay. In an effort to have this fare reduced to 1d. (as in Edward Street to the ferry) a deputation will wait upon the Mayor of Brisbane on Thursday afternoon. Petitions signed by many hundreds of southside residents will be presented, Wynnum, Manly, Lota, Hemmant and other districts all lending their support to the request.”

Telegraph (Brisbane) Monday 16 August 1926

The cross-river Merivale Bridge bridge was not built until 1978 joining South Brisbane and Brisbane City stations.

The August meeting of the Society featured a talk by Wynnum Library historian Heather Richards.

“The History of Lota House.”

Heather started her talk by paying her respects to Traditional Owners. She noted that Aboriginal people had lived in the Wynnum Manly area for at least 25,000 years. She commented that the arrival of Europeans had caused great disruption to the lives of the indigenous inhabitants.

Lota House is the oldest surviving stone building in the district. It was built for William Duckett White. William arrived in Australia in 1840 with his wife and two young children. After working as a teacher at a school near Gosford in NSW he bought land on the Richmond River in northern NSW.

Unfortunately, the river flooded, forcing him to leave the Richmond River area. In 1844 he moved to Queensland where he managed Beaudesert Station – owned by his cousin J. P. Robinson. He was able to buy out his cousin in 1848, and over the next 20 years accumulated a substantial holding of cattle properties.

In the early 1860s William purchased about 200 acres of land at what is now Lota and hired architect Claude Chambers to design the house. He named the house Lota, after the place in Ireland where his wife grew up. William and Jane had two sons, Ernest and Albert, and a daughter Helena. Two other daughters, both called Emily, died in infancy.

William arranged a garden around the house and used some of the land for crops, including sugar cane. He imported Kanaka labourers for the work.

In 1861, William was appointed to the Queensland Legislative Council (the old upper house of the Queensland Parliament), where he served for 19 years. William was prominent in Queensland society and was a founding member of the Queensland Club. Many prominent people including Queensland Governors and Premiers were guests at Lota House.

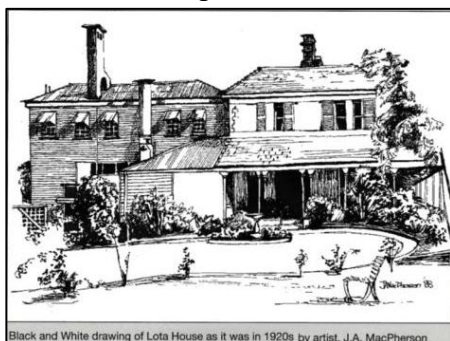
William deeded the house to his wife Jane in 1867, with the provision that he lived in it during his lifetime. Jane died in 1887 and William six years later in 1893. The house passed first to their son Albert and then to the grandson William White – known as “Duckett”.

Graham Mylne purchased the house in 1913 from his cousin William White. Graham was the son of Helena. Graham and his wife lived at Lota house for 45 years. After Graham passed away in 1958, his wife Kathleen sold the house to the Anglican Church

The Church had received a bequest from Edwin Marsden Tooth and used the money to buy the house and turn it into an aged care home, which still operates.



Helena – Daughter of William and Jane married Graham Mylne.



Black and White drawing of Lota House as it was in 1920s by artist, J.A. MacPherson

Kate Riley, who lives in Dumfries, Scotland, recently discovered that 82 Andrew Street, Wynnum is now listed as a local heritage place. Kate and her family lived at 80 Andrew Street, Wynnum between 1962 and 1965. Kate shares her memories. . .

CHILDHOOD RECOLLECTIONS OF WYNNUM-MANLY (1962–1965)

1. Moving to Andrew Street & The Railway (c. 1962–1963)

Around 1962 or 1963, my family moved to 80 Andrew Street from a shop and house located at the corner of Tingal Road and Pine Street.

The Steam Trains: *Our property sat right in front of the railway embankment. I loved watching the steam trains chuff by. They would build up steam after leaving the nearby Wynnum Central station and level crossing, or slow down as they approached from the other direction. The engine drivers always waved back at us; I distinctly remember one man who would wave his thumb from side to side. Over these years, diesel engines slowly took over, but the steam trains remained my favourite.*

The Environment: *Both our house and the neighbouring church had corrugated tin roofs. I absolutely loved the sound of heavy rain pounding on the iron during heavy downpours. After the rain, and every evening, countless tree frogs and cane toads would appear from goodness knows where. As well as the 'dunny' at the bottom of the garden, we also had a separate outdoor laundry room which matched the house in construction, with double deep concrete sinks and was large enough for my elder brother to use the rear end of it as his workshop.*

2. Bunny's Wood Yard and Sawmill

Directly next door to us at 80 Andrew Street was Bunny's Wood Yard and Sawmill. A tall, corrugated iron fence divided our properties. There was a small hole in this fence that I used to peek through. I remember watching the workmen moving large planks of wood to be stored before they were sold.

82 Andrew St



3. The Christadelphian Sunday School (82 Andrew Street)

In 1964, after a long bout of illness with tonsillitis, I asked my mother if I could join the Sunday school children next door sitting outside for their lessons. We could easily see them through the wire fence.

The Community: *My Mum spoke over the fence to a lovely teacher named Mrs Marrashack (phonetic spelling), who warmly welcomed me into her class. I attended until we moved away in 1965 and thoroughly enjoyed my time there.*

The Church Layout & Socials: *Sunday began with a short service inside the timber church building, where the seats were arranged in rows facing the front. However, these seats were moveable and for special events, like a Sunday School party, they were pushed to the sides so we could dance. I have fond memories of dancing The Grand Old Duke of York, which was great fun. After the indoor service, we would disperse outside to sit against the church wall for our individual class lessons.*

The Sanitary System: *Both our house at Number 80 and the church at Number 82 relied on outdoor "dry closet" pan toilets. Once a week, a special sanitary collector (the "dunny man") came to empty them. He would leave a clean metal bucket and a supply of fresh sawdust, which was kept in a box next to the toilet. We used a small, handled scoop to place sawdust into the toilet after each use.*

4. Manly State School (Grade 1 to Grade 3)

I joined Manly State School towards the end of Grade 1 and stayed until late 1964. (PTO)

Early Grades: My first teacher was Miss Birch (teaching Grade 1, Grade 2, or a composite of both). Our classroom was located in a single-story building right next to the neighbouring church (St Paul's). At break and lunch times, we played on the swings and in the sandpits. We ate our packed lunches out of the sun in the shaded, taller areas underneath the high-set school buildings.

Grade 3 and School Life: By Grade 3, my classroom was located in a large wooden "hut" (a temporary building) situated on the tarmac playground behind the large raised section of the school. The toilets here were also outside buildings.

The Transition from Slates: In Grade 1 and part of Grade 2, we learned to write on slates using a slate pencil. One side of the slate was lined for writing, and the other side was either blank or lined in grids for maths/number work. We had to bring a wet sponge to school inside a plastic soap dish to wipe our slates clean. We eventually transitioned away from slates onto paper and pencils. Our school bags were rigid and shaped like miniature suitcases.

5. Wynnum Central State School (Late 1964)

By late 1964, I had grown unhappy at Manly State School. I was tired of the long daily walk back and forth, and my teacher, Mr Leggat, was very strict.

The Transfer: One day, I met a girl named Lynnette Hosking while she was playing with her two younger siblings in a sandpit outside a supermarket in Wynnum. She asked why I didn't come to her school, Wynnum Central. I asked my parents if I could switch. Because my Dad knew the headmaster through the local RSL club, he was able to easily arrange the transfer for the final term of 1964.

School Memories: I was placed in Lynnette's class under a wonderful teacher named Mr Lolback, and I was very happy there. Lynnette and I became best friends and we joined the Junior Red Cross, which met once a week after school hours in one of the classrooms.

The Buildings: Unlike Manly, the main building at Wynnum Central was brick and had toilets downstairs. However, my classroom was located in the upper portion of a wooden building built at a right angle to the right of the main brick structure. We still ate our lunches underneath the buildings, but we played on the swings and slides, and spent our breaks playing hopscotch, skipping, and "French skipping" using long loops of elastic.

The Salvation Army Marches & Moving Away (1965)

In 1965, my family purchased a shop in Thornlands, and we moved away from the district. I was heartbroken to leave Lynnette behind. Her family belonged to the Salvation Army, and before we moved, I used to join her on Friday nights to march through the busy streets of Wynnum with the Salvation Army Brass Band. Lynnette and I played tambourines at the very back of the band. Even though I did not belong to their church, I felt incredibly honoured that they accepted me and let me play alongside them."

Thank you for your time and for preserving the wonderful history of the Wynnum-Manly community. I would be delighted to answer any questions your members might have via email.

Warm regards,
Ariadne (Kate) Riley
Dumfries
Scotland

What's On!

Sept/Oct 2026

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	Booking
Sunday 13 September 2026 10 – 1pm	Open Day Wynnum Ambulance Museum	31– 33 Tingal Rd Wynnum	Free. Donation
Thursday 17 September 2026 5.30 -7.30pm	“Threads of Migration. The stories that connect us.”	Nat Arch Australia 16 Corporate Dr Cannon Hill	Free. Book:3249 4200
Friday 18 September 2026 5.30pm	“Silk Textiles” Exhibition Launch	RHSQ Commissariat Store 115 George St City	Free Inc. wine and cheese.
Thursday 24 September 2026 10.00 – 11am	“Masonic Hall”, Wynnum	Wynnum Library 1'45 Florence St Wynnum	Free. Book 3403 2199
Sat/Sun 26/27 September 2026	“Red Fest - Colour Music and Magic” Redland Spring Festival	Redlands Showground. Museum;; 60 Smith St., Cleveland	Redlands Showground. Free entry to Museum. Refreshments.
Weds 7 or 21 October 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
Until 18 October 2026 Open 10 – 3pm (not Mon or Tues)	‘Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards’ Exhibition	Redcliff Museum 75 ANZAC Ave Redcliff	Free

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

Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc.

Highlights from the Committee Meeting Thursday 3 September 2026

- * The full committee was present.
- * There has been no further information released regarding the proposed plan for the development of "Bayside Pavillion" on the site of the former Wynnum Fish Market at 18 Fox Street, Wynnum. An email of appreciation was sent for attending the free breakfast and consultation, in Greene park, on the bank of Wynnum Creek. A 600-person capacity is planned with 40 dedicated car park spaces available.
- The streets are full of parked cars already. This problem was continually heard with no answer provided.
- * Membership stands at 76 persons.
- * Due to the planned speaker for the September being overseas, Chris Seymour will deliver an illustrated talk about the inhabitants of Moreton Bay. The meeting will be held in the Ambulance Auditorium in Cedar Street.
- * Communication needs to be improved regarding the removal of any materials from the Resource Centre.
- * Welfare: Contact has been made to Jan Parnell, now in aged care and Flo Schulz who has not been well. Also hospitalized are Myrtle who is now responding well to her mended hip and Lorraine Qwers is recovering from back problems.
- * Speakers are now organised to the end of 2026 and into 2027. In September 2026, Chris goes underwater in Moreton Bay in search of Turtles and Dugong, Sharks and Whales
- In October 2026 Amber from Manly Pool will follow the history of the pool over the last 100 years, from 1926. Sally Romano, President of "History Queensland" will be with us in November to speak about the advantages of membership of the HQ group.
- * Book scanner has arrived and is hired for 3 months. Sue Laakso to assist with the digitization project..
- * Many of the Wynnum Manly Historical Society plaques mounted around the district in the last 25 years are becoming shabby and need an uplift. Chris and Danny are about to investigate and prepare a report.
- * No word yet on the application for a grant from Kara Cook's office.
- * Chiharu gave a report on requirements for participating in the Spring Festival on Sunday 13 September 2026, the event being organised out of Councillor Alex Givney's office.

We thank our patrons
Joan Pease



and
Alex Givney



for all the
encouragement and
support.

We thank our
Sponsors and
Donors.



Bunnings



Cartridge World



Coles



Ede's Salon



Taste the Aroma

"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-4pm (Excp. Pub Holidays)
Librarian: Jill.