

## Messages from HQ Executive

Our Covid world is still impacting on us. With lockdowns in greater Sydney and Victoria, the AFFHO Congress on Norfolk Island has been postponed until August 2022. While this is unfortunate for the Norfolk Island organisers, AFFHO, speakers and attendees, it provides family and local historians an opportunity to save and plan to attend. Hopefully, with more of us vaccinated, it will be safer to attend.

Please don't forget that National Family History Month (NFHM) is in August. There is a website for NFHM at <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au/>. The History Queensland Patron, Shauna Hicks, is opening NFHM with a free event on the future of family history. Again, go to the website for details.

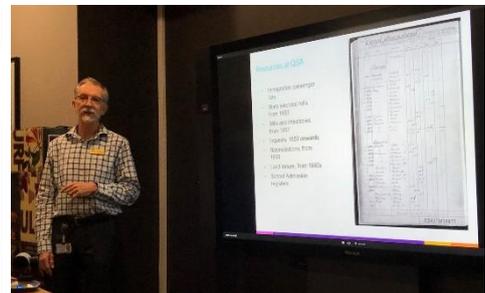
In the last few days, some great news was received about additional funding for the National Archives of Australia (NAA). This decision was for over \$67m to save at-risk records and was an excellent outcome from the Tune Review and the subsequent advocacy by historians. This is discussed later in the newsletter.

So stay well and happy researching,  
Marg Doherty (President)



A successful 2021 AGM was held at Queensland State Archives in Runcorn featuring a COVID-safe meeting combined with access via Zoom. The Management Committee was re-elected without change and Shauna Hicks was welcomed as our new Patron. Reports from member groups were submitted (with highlights in this newsletter).

Niles Elvery gave an informative talk on researching at the QSA, and then conducted a fascinating tour through the facilities. Thanks to QSA for an enjoyable day and delicious refreshments.



History Queensland's next six-monthly meeting

will be held in

Peachester on Saturday 20 November 2021

## National Archives of Australia (NAA) - Additional Funding

As Local and Family Historians, each of us knows the excitement of discovering evidence of our ancestors' lives... and we also know how important it is to preserve and digitise historical documents and images. Fortunately, the Government listened to historians and the Tune review - and last week allocated \$67.7M of the \$167M requested.

'Led by former Department of Finance Secretary Mr David Tune, the Functional and Efficiency Review considered:

- the enduring role of the National Archives in the protection, preservation and use of Commonwealth information
- how the National Archives might best perform this role
- what powers, functions, resources, and legislative and governance frameworks the National Archives needs to effectively and efficiently undertake this role in the digital age.' See <https://www.naa.gov.au/about-us/tune-review>

As reported in the Canberra Times on 1 July 2021, 'the funding would let the Archives preserve about 270,000 of its most at-risk records, including ASIO surveillance material, scientific research and Indigenous language recordings.'

Senator Stoker added, 'That doesn't mean we can save every piece of paper, it doesn't mean we can save every microfiche, but it's a process of working with the people who know best to determine that which is historically significant and making sure that remains part of Australia's national story for the long-term.'

Read more: <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/7321337/national-archives-to-receive-677-million-boost-to-digitise-at-risk-documents/?cs=14225>

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## National Family History Month – August 2021

It's only weeks till National Family History Month (NFHM) begins in Australia and New Zealand. NFHM is an activity of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO). The launch event was to take place at the AFFHO Congress so watch for website updates about local and online events throughout Australia and NZ.

Genealogy, Family History and related organisations are invited to hold events on a family history related topic. The website at <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au/> is compiling a list of events and webinars being held during August, and your organisation is encouraged to enter events directly into the website.

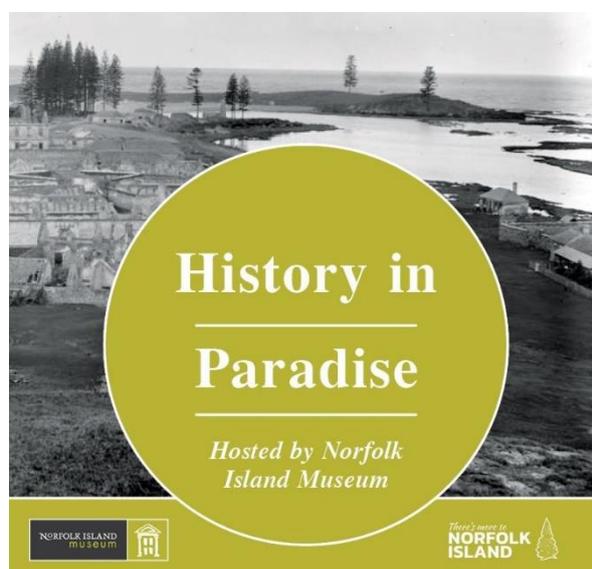
The NFHM Facebook page has regular updates <https://www.facebook.com/FamilyHistoryMonthAU>

## Date Claimers

**UPDATED – POSTPONED**

**AFFHO CONGRESS  
NORFOLK ISLAND  
postponed due to COVID  
until  
2- 4 August 2022  
departing Brisbane 30 July 2022**

Updated information on travel packages  
will be available soon.



## 4th Queensland State Conference



21 - 23 October 2022 in Redcliffe

[sandsoftime.org.au](http://sandsoftime.org.au)

### HQ Website update

The new look HQ website is now up and running. Many thanks to the team who managed the changes behind the scenes. Find speakers, hints and news. Check it out here...

[www.historyqueensland.org.au](http://www.historyqueensland.org.au)

### History Queensland - Facebook

Encourage your members to 'Like' and 'Follow' the HQ Facebook page to keep right up to date with interesting events and research tips...

<https://www.facebook.com/History-Queensland-Inc-1566191243689646>

## Messages from our Societies

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM GROUP REPORTS TO AGM 2021

All groups reported their relief that they can now meet in person, albeit with some limited numbers. 2021 saw an increased use of online forums for research, sharing of information and maintaining the connection with members. Most groups mentioned an increased use of Facebook and Zoom.

There was also a recurring theme of volunteers continuing their invaluable work of scanning and indexing and taking the opportunity during room closures to do huge 'sort outs' and renovations. It would take more than a pandemic to make our volunteers idle! Many groups have commenced major publications or historical significance projects.

Here are the briefest of highlights from the Reports submitted to the HQ AGM in May (full details can be found in the original reports sent to each Society with the AGM Minutes).

#### **ASHGROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC**

Articles and posts on Ashgrove's history continue to appear in the local free magazine and on Facebook. The society's quarterly newsletter provides local history information to our members. Looking at upgrading their website design.

The Society will soon be publishing a new book: Local Government in Ashgrove, the work of former AHS and Brisbane History Group member, the late Professor Emeritus John Laverty.

#### **AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY QUEENSLAND BRANCH**

The January meeting was significantly the 700<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Queensland Branch and a suitably engraved 1962 Australian penny was produced and given to members.

The monthly bulletin has provided members with papers and numismatic information to keep them updated with activities.

#### **BLACKBUTT & DISTRICT TOURISM & HERITAGE**

Published a booklet on the history of the postal services from early settlement to the present. Research on woodchopping from early days to now is an ongoing project. History Mornings are held every second month.

Projects include restoring the Teamsters Park at Jesse's Well, Taromeo, a Local Government Heritage site. Jesse's Well was the first water collection site for early travellers along the Old Coach. Producing informative signs about Taromeo and the Taromeo Mill in operation since 1910.

#### **BROOKFIELD DISTRICT MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Numerous Zoom presentations were recorded including talks on the local ferries; memories of early Bulimba; significant local identities including the McConnel, Riding, Porter, Crouch, Stiller, Bartlett, Smout, Blunt and Whereat families; Voyage of the Endeavour; transport; World War II & Tobruk veterans; Balmoral High School Cadets and more.

Numerous projects underway involving the WWI monument, Sailing Club history and street name research.

#### **BYFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Many working bees to open a heritage walking trail which leads to a stone crossing on the original road into Byfield.

Raising funds to finish the historical fence at the front of the property which would really kick start the reopening of the homestead.

### **CABOOLTURE FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP INC.**

Memberships have declined due to the elderly members not venturing out. They received a grant from the Moreton Bay Regional Council to purchase two new computers.

### **CALOUNDR A FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP INC.**

Continues to be active and turning 28 this year. Successful application to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund and received \$8,200 to buy five new laptops and a monitor to go with the scanners.

Membership renewals offered members a 25% discount on fees for 2021-2022. Last year, members received a 50% discount to thank them for their ongoing support.

### **COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY**

The Society celebrated 21 years in 2021. Have re-launched the Society's website and digitised two important island anthologies compiled by John Pearn – Chronicles of Coochiemudlo and Characters Coves and Cliffs. Successful bid to have the island's Emerald Fringe declared a local heritage site.

Will celebrate Matthew Flinders' 1799 visit to Coochiemudlo followed on 31 July by the inaugural Mangrove Festival, showcasing these remarkable trees and their vital role in sequestering atmospheric pollutants in Moreton Bay area.

### **DALBY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Still busy answering many questions and many emails and still opening on a Saturday afternoon.

### **DESCENDANTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN SOUTH SEA ISLANDER ASSOCIATION**

On-going meetings with government representatives re the DASSI Pontoon Access to Lot 71 on Maroochy River, Bli Bli.

A newly completed boardwalk honours the history and spectacular natural surrounds exploring Bli Bli's significant Australian South Sea Islander 150-year local history.

Set along the old cane rail track in the stunning Maroochy River wetlands, and accessed via Whistler St, the elevated 215 metre boardwalk links to the culturally and spiritually significant land leased by the Descendants of the Australian South Sea Islanders Inc (DASSI).

### **ENOGGERA & DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

The Society is going through a transition period following the passing of their long-time President, Dave Livett.

Planning for the annual 'Open Day' event in July. Their local history display is held at the Enoggera Memorial Hall each Thursday 9.30am to 1.00pm. Each month, the Society publishes articles in three local newspapers. Their new website [www.enoggerahistory.org](http://www.enoggerahistory.org) and Facebook page attract an increasing number of visitors.

### **FASSIFERN AND DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

In October 2021, the Society will celebrate 50 years of recording and researching local history.

In co-operation with Templin Museum, all evidence of past achievements is carefully recorded and stored. Space constraints mean there's a constant rotation of displays to delight visitors.

### **FORT LYTTON HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

The association has resumed 'reduced scale' conducted tours of the fort. They have acquired two more field artillery pieces on loan from the Army. Upgrading of the signals display is also underway.

### **FRIENDS OF BALMORAL CEMETERY**

Headstone Project Progress: FoBC produced two books with the funding from the Qld Government Anzac Centenary Grant. 'Into the Fire' records the memorials of 57 soldiers killed in action either in Gallipoli, Middle East or the Western Front. The second book records 299 veterans who returned to Australia after WWI and lived, worked, raised families in Queensland and were laid to rest in the cemetery. Order via [treasurer@balmoralcemetery.com](mailto:treasurer@balmoralcemetery.com)

At the time of the Anzac Centenary, the Headstone Project had found almost 70 veterans buried in unmarked graves. They have searched for descendants and applied for War Graves through the Office of Australian War Graves or Dept Veteran Affairs (DVA). A grant enabled them to obtain a brass plaque for these veterans and with the help of volunteers and voluntary contributions they erected a simple headstone.

The profiles of unmarked graves are posted on their Facebook page – so please share as they would love to connect with descendants.

### **THE FRIENDS OF TINGALPA CEMETERY HERITAGE GROUP**

There has been one new burial – a sad occasion for the family and friends involved, but an exciting one for the 'Friends' as they are extending the links to the pioneer ancestors of the chapel.

A Gambling Fund grant allowed the installation of a shade awning on the front of the amenities building, doubling the size of the covered area offered. It is so new that it has not been used yet.

### **GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND**

GSQ is now open for researching four days each week – with bookings required. GSQ's education program has attracted many participants. The DNA Discovery Day via Zoom in June featured six excellent speakers.

Amalgamation with QFHS is a "hot topic" at present. Several members' information meetings have been conducted and more are planned. The vote on whether amalgamation will occur has been set for Saturday, 24 July. Both societies will conduct a meeting at the same time on this date.

### **GENEALOGY SUNSHINE COAST**

GSC has been opening up to 30 hours over 4 days, but with only 10 active volunteers may need to revise these hours.

Had visits from Caloundra FH, Gold Coast FH and Qld Family History Society to check out the scanning equipment. Congratulations to them on successful grant applications and equipment installed. Planning to write better instructions for groups to make the best use of the tools to hand.

Keep an eye on the Genealogy Sunshine Coast website – it is about to get updated with some new 'how to' videos on the New Trove format and useful Google tools.

### **GLASSHOUSE HISTORY GROUP INC.**

GHG has commenced several local history research projects including the Mikalsen property at the foot of Mt Coonowrin, and Norman Greber's early work in the grafting of plants which permitted the establishment of a commercial macadamia industry. A few tobacco barns remain on properties in the district and the history group is keen to document and photograph these remaining barns. The cultivation of tobacco as a commercial crop ceased in 2006.

As a trial, the group has arranged monthly public meetings at the Glasshouse Neighbourhood Centre to provide opportunities for the community to share their stories of people, their industry and significant events.

### **GOLD COAST FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.**

Their project for 2021/22 is to digitise their collection. They are extremely grateful to Milli Kafkaloudis at Genealogy Sunshine Coast who has helped in purchasing suitable equipment and then assisted in getting to grips with the technology. Milli is writing a manual on this that may be useful to other groups.

We noted that Heather Wort, attending the HQ AGM from GCFHS, was the instigator and the first President of History Queensland way back when it was called QALFHS.

### **IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY.**

A busy May with a photographic display at the Ipswich Show and two presentations – at U3A and at "The Gathering"- All things Celtic, at the Ipswich Turf Club.

They still receive requests for information from people who seem to think that as it is an email there is no cost involved. They are not alone!

### **KENMORE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

As a fairly new society they have achieved a lot in six years. Published several books on local history: 'Kenmore & District, a Pictorial History' (in 2015 & 2021), 'Kenmore War Memorial' (2018), 'Focus on Pullenvale' (2019 reprinted from 1988) 'Early Stories of Kenmore, Chapel Hill, Fig Tree Pocket, Pullenvale and District' (2019). A book on the history of Fig Tree Pocket is due to be published in 2021.

For the past five years they have published a local history article each month in the magazine 'The Local Bulletin' which is delivered free to households in 17 western suburbs.

In 2017, State Library of Queensland requested permission to archive Kenmore and District Historical Society website because they were seeking outstanding websites for this purpose and of course KDHS agreed.

### **KILCOY DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

Hall of History opens on average 5 half days per week with an average of 110 visitors per month .

Introduction of e-Newsletters which include a history story about our town and district (320 subscribers)

Have revamped the Website to include photo displays, newsletters, videos and publications for sale

Steady flow of research requests from the public – family histories, buildings and places of interest.

### **LOGAN RIVER & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.**

Continue the search for suitable premises despite several knockbacks. Have lost the income from Bunnings Sausage sizzles, so established a Fund-Raising Committee who have embarked on a variety of fundraising ventures.

Have formed a Research Enquiry Committee to streamline research enquiries that we receive from members and others. They published and launched the Beenleigh War Memorial Project on USB just prior to ANZAC Day, thanks to some dedicated work by Dianna Ottaway.

### **MARYBOROUGH FAMILY HERITAGE INSTITUTE INC.**

Late 2020 published another shipping book, entitled "Silver Eagle" which sailed into Maryborough in 1880 and 1882.

In 2021 working on another book, "Duke of Athol" which arrived at Maryborough in 1881. Their main work is tracing families for visitors and others requesting help in finding the ancestors and how and why they came to Maryborough.

### **NORTH PINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Wrapped up last year with a tour around the local North Pine Country Park (Old Petrie Town). The Museum, Scouts Museum (Scones for morning tea), the Distillery, lunch at the Hotel, followed by a stroll through the park and a tour of the Steamies Shed. It was fantastic to start 2021 with the presentation of the picnic tables with NPHS dedication plaques attached to the Museum and families.

Projects for this year:

- A calendar, Favourite Picnic Parks of the area.
- History Seminar featuring Pioneers of the Pine.
- continued scanning of the APM AMCOR Collection
- Continuing the research on the buildings of the North Pine Country Park (Old Petrie Town).

### **ORAL HISTORY QUEENSLAND**

The national body, Oral History Australia, launched a new website late in 2020 which also has lots of information about doing oral history projects.

In April, Professor Helen Klaebe facilitated a Basics of Oral History workshop at the Ashgrove Library. The 10 participants represented a diverse array of interests and professions—including Aboriginal history, Libraries, Museums, and research. Helen introduced the key objectives, philosophies and skills of oral history, with particular attention to how to scope a project for manageability, and maximum impact and success.

### **PEACHESTER HISTORY COMMITTEE**

Continue to promote local Heritage. Also hosted the staff of Peachester State School, which is situated right beside the hall and Heritage Centre, to give them an overview of the collection, and discuss how PHC can work with them for the benefit of their students.

Recently published a brochure to promote the Centre – see the Facebook page for details on the centre. Members are looking forward to hosting the next HQ Inc meeting here in November.

## **QUEENSLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC**

QFHS invites members into the library to read, research and meet old friends. They want to grow the amount of material available on-line and also to bring more life into the library.

For the past 3 years, QFHS & GSQ (Genealogical Society of Qld) have been in amalgamation negotiations. At present they are holding Q&A sessions for members. Thanks to over 70 QFHS members who attended the first information session. A summary of the discussions and issues raised can be assessed on the QFHS website 'Our Future'.

Additional information sessions will be held over the coming months. Members are urged to attend as amalgamation is a vital issue and they want as many members as possible to vote and contribute to their future.

Have increased membership by 4% and maintained the 38% split of members from outside greater Brisbane. QFHS has an active recruitment plan and identified the potential to attract more members by increasing the amount on-line resources – both QFHS records and datasets and QFHS subscription sites.

QFHS is in a stable financial position and expecting another substantial surplus at end of financial year.

QFHS has been actively searching for new and affordable premises for over 5 years. In Dec 2020 they submitted 4 expressions of interest with the BCC for council premises :-

- 1 Nundah Activity Centre
- 2 Ashgrove Bowls Club
- 3 Balmoral Bowls Club
- 4 Ascot Fire station.

## **QUEENSLAND STATE ARCHIVES**

QSA is now in the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy and with the change of Department comes a change of direction with a focus on First Nations.

QSA is working with an historian to identify records relating to frontier conflict in Queensland between the Europeans and First Nations Peoples.

The Department is recruiting a new State Archivist.

Content being added to flickr. Recent albums include Convicts; Sun, Sea and Sand; Women in the Archives

Recently published *OPEN: Unwrapping the stories from Queensland State Archives*. This is a collection of stories from the QSA collection submitted, collated, written and researched by QSA staff. It is available for purchase.

## **REDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Inc.**

In May, the society celebrated their 40th anniversary at the Redland Museum. At least three founding members attended, along with the Deputy Mayor and a representative from Redland Libraries.

One project that was completed this year is the setting up of "You're Not Mine" Certificates database on the society's website. Members are supplying copies of Certificates, ordered in error, for others to explore and use.

## **THE GAP HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC**

GHS held its monthly general meetings with little other activity. The Time Line project is still being worked on and it is hoped that this will be uploaded to the website in the near future. A planned Heritage Festival event had to be cancelled.

## **THE QUEENSLAND WOMEN'S HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**

QWHA would have celebrated 70 years since formation in 1950 but celebrations have been postponed until 2021.

Almost 2000 books of the QWHA library have been loaded onto e-hive and Facebook showcases the treasures of the QWHA Collection.

The major display of High Society- a collection of costumes and accessories worn to social events from 1860 -1960. A professional virtual tour and "live visitors" gave good reviews. A podcast on the extensive conservation applied to the clothing in the display was produced by Brisbane Living Heritage Network.

The QWHA Art collection is being catalogued and is on display, featuring works belonging to the Bowen collection.

## **TOO GOOLAWAH & DISTRICT HISTORY GROUP**

The History Museum operates from Thursday to Saturday 10am - 2pm. Group bookings on other days by appointment.

Recent guest speaker Betsy Fysh spoke about her book about the founding of Qantas "When Chairmen were Patriots" which includes her husband's grandfather Hudson Fysh, who played a major part in its establishment.

Fundraising efforts include community markets, catering for major cycling events on the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail and a major historical photographic exhibition to open in late September. They continue to promote the Museum and associated activities via their two Facebook pages.

## **TOO WOOMBA & DARLING DOWNS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Still indexing! Toowoomba Chronicle entries now 1,064,145 and 783,707 in the Qld Government Gazettes from 1919.

The latest publication, Vol 5 of 'Our Backyard' was printed in-house. They can also print 'out of print' publications as hard copies are more popular than CD or USB.

Now calling for entries for two new publications Vol 6 of 'Our Backyard – Drayton & Toowoomba Cemetery' and Vol 1 of 'Beyond Our Backyard' – histories of those buried in any cemeteries within the Toowoomba Regional Council area.

Have just replaced the NAS drive and bought a new computer and were able to adapt a program to run Digger and other older programs. The new computer has shortcuts to the 1836-1853 Victoria's Early Church Records and the 1885-1972 Australia's War dead.

## **WIDE BAY HOSPITALS MUSEUM SOCIETY INC**

This year is the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wide Bay Hospitals Museum Society who are the proud custodians of the local public hospitals' history dating back to the 1850s.

Made a successful application to the Fraser Coast Regional Council's 2020-21 Community Projects Grants Program for funds to replace the Museum's history story panels – 5 in total. Hope to have them soon. Grateful for the support of Fraser Coast Mayor George Seymour and the Council.

The Wide Bay Hospitals Museum contributed a chapter in the book 'Moments in Time, Vol 2' featuring some history in pictures of Maryborough's public hospitals and Ambulance service.

## **WINTON DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM INC.**

The Museum has installed several etched aluminium labels for an improved interpretation of the outdoor displays. Installation of the lift for disabled access to No 5 Display room is now complete.

A Winton opal mining family donated a potch boulder and an old pick and shovel (thought to be over one hundred years old), found in a cave on Vergemont Station. These and other old opal mining equipment are on display in the Shed near the Bottle Room.

Great to see the number of visitors to the Waltzing Matilda Centre who spend a lot of time in the Museum area.

## **WOODFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Museum looks great after a makeover during lock down. Bus day trippers are on the move again and there has been more interaction with local schools.

The ANZAC Day display was based on postcards and letters posted home from soldiers to their families. These were enlarged to A3 size and framed, with the focus on one local soldier, James Trim.

There are plenty of grants around to stimulate the local economy post Covid and on their wish list is a mural of Indigenous Cricketer Eddie Gilbert who was born at Woodford. They are working with a local Indigenous Elder who is also an amazing artist to achieve this project.

Received a donation to research Army Camps in the area and do something special to mark these sites. During WW2 there were about 20,000 soldiers camped in the area, so it's a huge area to cover. Have access to a lot of photos from local families that are scanned and put on the Facebook page and website. Expecting a productive and busy year.

## **WYNNUM MANLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

Holding physical monthly meetings with Zoom component (utilising History Queensland's Zoom subscription) for members and visitors unable to attend in person. Zoom is still a work in progress but feedback from members utilising this option is that it is improving each meeting.

Released their latest publication *A glimpse of the church buildings of Wynnum, Manly and Lota* which was compiled following requests through the Facebook page. Patron and local councillor, Peter Cumming, provided the funding for the printing. The book sells for \$10.



**History Queensland provides a Zoom account for use by member societies, completely free of charge, with no fixed time limits.**

**For more information and booking requests contact Sandy Liddle via the HQ Zoom email, [hqzoom21@gmail.com](mailto:hqzoom21@gmail.com), or [secretary@historyqueensland.org.au](mailto:secretary@historyqueensland.org.au).**

## **Hints and Tips**

(From the tech gurus at Genealogy Sunshine Coast)



Test out the new features - because Google Photos can now read handwritten text!

- 1 Update your apps for Android and Desktops etc first.
- 2 Take a photo of a handwritten page and upload it to Google Drive on your computer.
- 3 Select the photo; click on 'Copy text from image'.



4. The typed version from OCR magically appears in the side panel - ready for you to edit, copy and paste.

This is such a timesaver – and it can even read names from gravestones! Including in Greek!

## **2021-2022 Management Committee**

### **President - Margaret Doherty**

[president@historyqueensland.org.au](mailto:president@historyqueensland.org.au)

Phone: 0439 456 109

Toowoomba & Darling Downs FHS Inc  
QFHS, GSQ, NAA & AFFHO Representative

### **Secretary – Valerie Thornton**

[secretary@historyqueensland.org.au](mailto:secretary@historyqueensland.org.au)

Caloundra Family History Research Inc

### **Treasurer – Fay Carbis**

[treasurer@historyqueensland.org.au](mailto:treasurer@historyqueensland.org.au)

Gold Coast Family History Society Inc

### **Insurance Liaison Officer - Helen Turner**

[insurance@historyqueensland.org.au](mailto:insurance@historyqueensland.org.au)

Logan City Historical Museum Society Inc

Phone: 0412 708 401

### **Facebook Admin - Ann Metcher**

[secretary@historyqueensland.org.au](mailto:secretary@historyqueensland.org.au)

Gold Coast Family History Society Inc

### **Newsletter Editor - Linda Ely**

[newsletter@historyqueensland.org.au](mailto:newsletter@historyqueensland.org.au)

Toowoomba & Darling Downs FHS Inc

**Committee Member - Jacqui Brock**  
Toowoomba & Darling Downs FHS Inc  
Gatton and District Historical Society Inc

**Committee Member - Niles Elvery**  
Queensland State Archives

**Committee Member - Sandy Liddle**  
Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc