

Vol 10, no 4

September 2023

From the President's desk

Another month has passed, and the Management Committee received the sad news of the imminent closure of The Gap Historical Society on 30 September 2023. This Society has been a member of History Queensland since 2000, so it is with much sadness that we heard of the Society's demise. Their latest wonderful research and work was to create and publish a Timeline book recording the long and fascinating history of The Gap. Luckily, this work has been saved for use by future researchers and generations to come.

I am sure all HQ members join with me and the Management Committee in wishing the remaining members of The Gap Historical Society all the best for their future endeavours.

You may have heard the good news from the Office of Fair Trading regarding the changes to reporting rules for not-for-profit groups and charities. HQ's Secretary circulated the good news email and I urge everyone to make themselves familiar with the new regime. It will save societies time and money so familiarising ourselves with it will be well worthwhile.

The Management Committee is finalising the details of the next six-monthly meeting. It will be held on Saturday 25 November 2023 at the Brisbane Tramway Museum: see the date claimer below. Details of what promises to be an interesting, enjoyable and great day out will be circulated later.

Until next month.

Kay Ryan

Crown Hotel & Lacey's Store c1909, from **Dayboro District Historical Society Inc**, July newsletter.



**DATE CLAIMER – SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER
FOR HISTORY QUEENSLAND INC'S NEXT SIX-MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING**

The meeting will be hosted by The Brisbane Tramway Museum Society,
Tramway St, Ferny Grove, tel (07) 3351 1776

www.brisbanetramwaymuseum.org

The Museum will be open, and delegates will be able to ride on Brisbane's preserved trams in a bushland setting.

Member societies will be invited to report on interesting events or projects they have dealt with in the last six months.

In addition, the Management Committee agreed in August that one of the objects of this general meeting will be to empower member societies by asking two or three societies to talk about how they dealt with a particular task.

The committee also agreed that as societies learn from each other, having some members describe how they dealt with governance issues such as collection development and management, guidelines for publications, increasing membership, development of a website, or preparing an oral history project etc. could be very helpful for other groups.

More details nearer the day.



DAYBORO DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Dayboro State School (formerly Terrors Creek Provisional School No 191) will be celebrating its 150th anniversary on 18 May 2024. Because May is such a busy month in Dayboro, the organising committee has decided to hold the 150th Anniversary celebrations on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 July 2024. Our Society is endeavouring to obtain as much information as possible to assist the organising committee. We are endeavouring to collect copies of school class photos in the hope of identifying the students of yesteryear. If you or your parents or other family members have any Dayboro State School photos, or photos from the one teacher schools that were in the district (Upper North Pine, Forbes Creek, Laceys Creek, Armstrong Creek, Kobble Creek, Mayfield, Mt Pleasant, Mt Pleasant Banana Settlement, and Ocean View), the Society would appreciate being given an opportunity to scan them.



Since our last report, we have continued to welcome new members to our Brisbane meetings, and to Affiliate groups, which is a very positive sign. With that in mind we have continued to teach the basic traditional smocking stitches to new beginners and to assist those with more experience to increase their knowledge on different projects on which they are working.

Our Maleny group continue to explore smocking stitches from around the globe to expand member interest and knowledge

Our Gold Coast group are very productive, still supplying smocked dresses to New Guinea, and other items not necessarily smocking related but vital to help mothers and babies in very isolated areas.

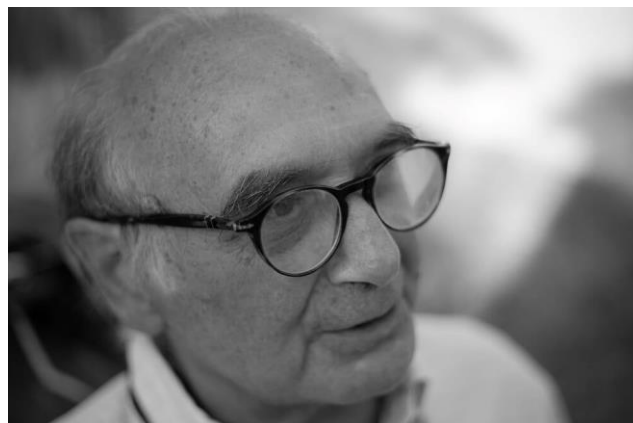
Our monthly newsletter, The Cable, continues to inform members of group activities, and contains articles of smocking interest to expand member knowledge.

The Cable has always been printed in paper form that members may also download, but our big project at the present moment is to transfer over 30 years of written newsletters into digital media form which will take some time to complete.

**2024 ORAL HISTORY AUSTRALIA BIENNIAL CONFERENCE,
TRINITY COLLEGE, PARKVILLE, MELBOURNE, 21-24 NOVEMBER 2024**

Oral History Australia will hold the next national conference in Melbourne in 2024. Oral History Australia is hosting the conference jointly with Oral History Victoria at Trinity College, Parkville, Melbourne, from 21 to 24 November 2024. The conference theme *The Power of Oral History — Risks, Rewards & Possibilities* taps into the many powerful features of oral history practice including the potential to evoke powerful emotions, bring forth new voices, and engage new audiences through multimedia. Keynote speakers include the legendary Alessandro Portelli (pictured) who has for over 50 years been one of the most influential oral historians in the world.

The conference welcomes participants who use oral history in their work across the many fields and disciplines that contribute to community, professional and academic histories. OHA welcomes presenters from Victoria and around Australia, from across the Tasman and throughout the oral history world, from First Nations and culturally diverse backgrounds. We invite proposals for individual presentations, workshops, performances and thematic panels that speak to *The Power of Oral History — Risks, Rewards and Possibilities*. The deadline for receipt of proposals is 1 April 2024. Find out more on the conference website — <https://oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/biennial-conference-2024/>



**REDCLIFFE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC
WATCH THIS SPACE 2024!**

Redcliffe Historical Society Inc. is in the early stages of planning a series of events to acknowledge the bicentennial in September 2024 of the first European settlement and penal colony in Redcliffe, Queensland. The Society and the Royal Historical Society of Qld and Bribie Island Historical Society are organising a Conference *The Moreton Bay Bicentennial Commemoration*, to be held on 7 September 2024 at The Komo Conference Centre, Redcliffe.

A series of smaller events will be held during the following week culminating in our Main Event in Corscadden Park, adjacent to the Redcliffe Museum, on Saturday 14 September 2024. 'Watch This Space' by logging into our website <https://historyredcliffe.com.au.2023-200>.



OUR NEWEST MEMBER — HEADINGTON HILL HERITAGE ACRE



The entry to Headington Hill Heritage Acre.

Headington Hill is a rural locality in the Toowoomba Region. From 1902 to 1941 the Heritage Acre site was home to St Peter's Lutheran Church. A few local families have made the effort to keep the place well maintained. There are a couple of older graves as well as memorials to people who have died within the last few decades. The church was dismantled in the 1940s and some of its materials, as well as materials from the Lutheran church at Mount Kent, went into the construction of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Nobby. A flyer at the site says the acre of land was donated by the Paech family with Stehn and Venz families as trustees.

If you are interested in having a look, after turning on to Gatton Clifton Road from the New England Highway, turn left after three kilometres onto Careys Road and after another kilometre the site will be on your right.

If you do drop in, the volunteers keeping it maintained would appreciate some spare change to go towards purchasing a ride-on mower.

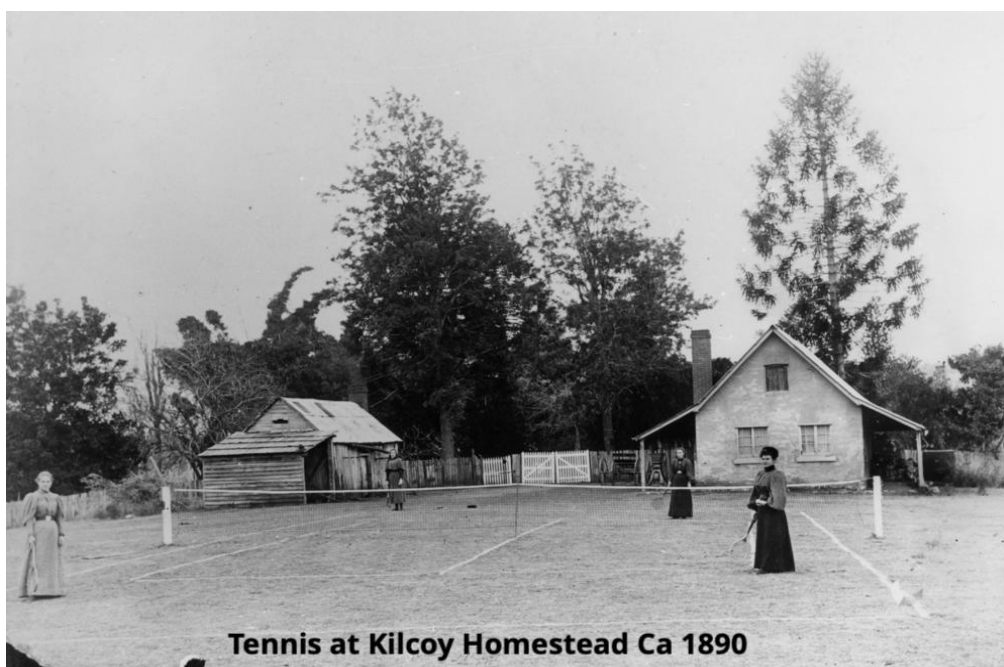
Early days of Tennis in Kilcoy

Tennis as we know it came into being in the 1870s and has remained almost unchanged in rules and format to the present day.

With a tennis court not requiring any great area of ground nor any great expertise to construct and maintain, and while the nature of the game enables it to be played in company by both sexes with mutual enjoyment, it soon became one of the more popular leisure activities.

There is graphic evidence of it being played at Kilcoy homestead prior to 1900, and it is known that the Butler family held regular tennis afternoons with visitors coming from as far afield as Cressbrook to participate.

Although there is historic evidence that tennis was played on the Creek bank at Kilcoy in the first years of the 20th century, and the inaugural Kilcoy Tennis Club is said to have been formed circa 1902, the block of four courts on the eastern side of Kilcoy Creek on the northern side of Woodford Road, which became the focal point of tennis in the Township, was not laid down until about July 1926. The later construction of two floodlit courts in the township brought a new dimension to tennis in the area.



Tennis at Kilcoy Homestead Ca 1890



Kilcoy's first Tennis Team ca 1908

When my husband began researching his family history around 30 years ago, he found that his great grandfather was named John Jones who married Letitia McMillan in Scot's Church, Melbourne in 1853. According to his marriage certificate, John was born in Sydney, NSW, and his father's name was also John Jones, a labourer, who was married to Mary Jones (nee McArthur). In those early days of genealogical research, one of my husband's cousins had engaged a researcher to find out more about the Jones ancestors. That researcher presented the results: she said that John Jones (the first) was a superintendent of sheep to Captain Piper at Stoney Creek near Bathurst, and John (the second) was baptised in the Anglican Parish of Bathurst by Rev John Espy Keane on 24 March 1833.

Based on this information the family tree grew slightly with another son to John and Mary named George being baptised by the same minister in the same place two years later. Searches for a marriage between John Jones (the first) and Mary McArthur were fruitless. We then turned to records of convicts of the names John Jones and Mary McArthur. Needless to say, there were hundreds of John Joneses who were transported as convicts in the First and Second Fleets, and a number of Mary McArthurs as well. Many hours and days over many months and years have been spent researching records of Captain Piper's land holdings, employees and convict servants to no avail, although we learnt quite a lot about Captain Piper that we did not know before. The family trees that have been worked upon over the years, however, have all been based on the premise that John Jones (the first) was a superintendent of sheep to Captain Piper and lived at Stoney Creek near Bathurst and had at least two sons, one of whom was John Jones (the second). Perhaps 'superintendent of sheep' was a fancy name for a shepherd?

John Jones (the second) and his wife Letitia settled on land at Merton, Victoria, some 23 miles from Mansfield, where Letitia's family had settled. They had nine children, the fourth born of whom was my husband's grandfather, Edward Alfred Jones, known as Alf. Alf, three of his brothers, and one sister, came to Queensland in the 1870s and 1880s. Unfortunately, John Jones (the second) seemed to disappear from the records from about 1880 when his name stopped appearing in the Mansfield rate records, with Letitia left recorded as sole owner of their property, eventually being unable to pay the rates due. Despite attempts to find a record of John Jones (the second's) movements – including possible admissions to mental asylums – or death, either in Victoria or Queensland (to where Letitia also moved), each promising lead ended in disappointment. The name John Jones must be one of the hardest names to research! My husband gave up the search some time ago, but whenever the name appears in my own research, I always follow up to see if it may be HIS John Jones.

In the last year we were contacted by a descendant of John Jones (the first) who had done quite a bit of research into the family. At last, we thought, a lot of the mysteries would be solved, and we could link up with even more family members and flesh out the life of John Jones! But again it was not to be. A couple of years ago, both my husband and I took DNA tests. As the last surviving and youngest son of the youngest son of his Irish grandparents, my husband thought doing so would be of assistance for others in his Ryan family and also Jones descendants who may be undertaking family history research. Our hoped-for new Jones relative had also done a DNA test – BUT THERE WAS NO MATCH. Not a scintilla. Nothing. Not even by trying to match through other relatives.

I am now trying to weed out all the references to John Jones (the first) being a superintendent of sheep to Captain Piper and to Bathurst from the family records we have amassed over the years. It is difficult to put aside a belief that one has held for so many years. It appears that we will never know the true origins of John and Mary Jones (nee McArthur), but one thing is certain: they did not live at Stoney Creek near Bathurst and their origins remain a mystery. After all, DNA does not lie.

Kay Ryan

Toowoomba

The Gap Historical Society had its beginnings at a meeting on 22 July 2000 attended by residents interested in the history of The Gap. Most of those present had links to the small number of early farming and Soldier Settler families who had lived in the area prior to residential development. Richard Speechley, who had called the meeting, was elected to be President of the group and Bev McMullin was elected Secretary. Richard and Bev continued in these roles for more than half the life of the Society.

Local Councilor, Geraldine Knapp, urged the new group to lease and manage Nullagundi from Brisbane City Council, and to develop it as their meeting place. (Nullagundi is an aboriginal name meaning 'great meeting place.') Nullagundi had been built by the community as a Guide Hut and was a basic, unlined, besser block structure. Over the next twenty years, much of the group members' energy went into meeting the onerous requirements of a Brisbane City Council lease, and developing the building to twice its original size so that it could accommodate a museum and storage space for the group's large photographic collection. This extension was officially opened on 13 September 2009. The meeting room was carpeted, and a new upgraded kitchen installed.

Meanwhile Richard Speechley, who wrote articles about the history of The Gap for the local monthly newspaper, led the Society's work to collect and display the early history of the district. It was also fortunate that some earlier residents of the area with an interest in local history had been recording and sharing information they collected since around the time of World War 2. Through their connections with members of The Gap Historical Society, many of the pre-urbanization families were happy to share their stories and photos. This resulted in the formation of an impressive collection of images and information about the first hundred years or so of life at The Gap.

For a number of years, school children from local primary schools would visit Nullagundi with their teachers to learn about the district and about how the lives of children had changed.

Of course, every group needs to have some fun and entertainment. Until recent times when meeting attendance became small, monthly meetings included an interesting guest speaker or activity. Bus trips to other societies and places of historical interest were well attended and the annual Melbourne Cup function and Christmas Lunch were highlights.

In more recent times, as members aged and membership declined, the focus of the Society has turned to preserving the historical information and images that have been collected and, most importantly, making the collection accessible to today's population. First, the Society's photograph collection was prepared and loaded to the internet with the help of a Brisbane City Council Grant. Then our current president, George Stoddart, suggested that the Society should research and prepare a timeline of The Gap's history. *A Journey Through Time — Events That Shaped The Gap* was the result of the four years of hard work that followed. The hard copy of this publication was launched by Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Shrinner on 17 June and there are plans for it soon to be available on the internet along with the Society's photograph collection.

With this work done, and just a handful of members remaining, it was unfortunately time to close the Society. Current and former members can be very proud of what they have achieved. They have supported and been active in bringing together an impressive collection of images and information about their district and have shared the collection generously with the whole community. They have supported each other in good times and bad, maintained the connections of the early families while welcoming newcomers, and worked to develop a comfortable, pleasant and affordable place where small groups can meet in our community. Well done all who have been part of The Gap Historical Society's journey.

(Some images on next page.)



WANTED – A WORKING MICROFICHE READER

If a Society has a working microfiche reader (not a printer) with spare bulbs, or that uses bulbs that are still available, that they would be happy to pass on to a library with a large collection of microfiche and keen users, please contact us: newsletter@historyqueensland.org.au .



Genealogy Sunshine Coast held a very successful stall at the Queensland Garden Expo in Nambour in July. We had a constant stream of people calling in to our stand with many questions about their research or just for a general chat. It was a very pleasant event.

We also had a very successful Open Day in May and we held another one in August. These events give local residents an opportunity to visit our premises and find out what resources we have available and other resources we have access to. We held Beginners' classes for three consecutive Wednesdays commencing on 30 August, covering topics such as How and Where to start, What records to access, and Understanding basic DNA. The classes included hands-on practice in the afternoon.

A workshop is also planned for Saturday 23 September on Writing Up Your Family History Journal using letters and diaries.

All workshops and events are held not just for our members but also for members of the public, at our premises in Petrie Park Road (opposite the swimming pool) in Nambour. Contact us at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/>.



2023-2024 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President – Kay Ryan president@historyqueensland.org.au AFFHO HQ

Representative (Toowoomba & Darling Downs FHS Inc)

Secretary – Valerie Thornton secretary@historyqueensland.org.au (Caloundra Family History Research Inc)

Treasurer – Fay Carbis treasurer@historyqueensland.org.au AFFHO Qld Representative (Gold Coast Family History Society Inc)

Insurance Liaison Officer – Helen Turner insurance@historyqueensland.org.au (Logan City Historical Museum Society Inc, Oral History Queensland Inc, phone 0412 708 401)

Facebook Admin – Ann Metcher secretary@historyqueensland.org.au (Gold Coast Family History Society Inc)

Newsletter Volunteer – Clive Porritt newsletter@historyqueensland.org.au (Nundah & Districts Historical Society Inc)

Committee members –

Kerry Beeton (Bribie Family History Association Inc)

Barry Lander (Laidley District Historical Society Inc)

Claire Rodwell (Genealogical Society of Queensland)

HQ PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE PERIOD 1/4/23-4/8/23

Revenues

Income

Insurance Premiums 2023/2024	\$32,675.00
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Interest Income

Business Cheque A/c	\$1.00
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Web Saver Interest	\$210.92
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Total Interest Income	\$211.92
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Membership 2023/2024	\$863.50
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Total Income	\$33,750.42
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Expenses

Expenses

Audit Fees	\$550.00
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Gifts	\$42.19
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Insurance

2023/2024 Insurance Premium	\$35,276.01
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Total Insurance	\$35,276.01
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Meeting Expenses - Hosting	\$100.00
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Mileage/Postage/Office Expenses	\$11.00
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Postage	\$24.00
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Website Expenses	\$500.00
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Total Expenses	\$36,503.20
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Total Expenses	\$36,503.20
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Net loss for Period	\$2,752.78
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**NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE,
INCLUDING FROM
SOCIETY NEWSLETTERS**

**Moons Memorial Tree Reserve at
Brookfield for sale**



News that the Queensland National Trust has recently listed the Moons Memorial Tree Reserve at Brookfield for sale has upset many local Brookfield residents.

Brookfield and Kenmore Historical Society members, who were unaware of the impending sale, believe that the Moons Memorial Tree Reserve should be retained by the Trust. The Reserve is part of the Brookfield History Trail.

**Caboolture Family History
Research Group Inc**

Founding Families of Moreton Bay is a project to gather and compile information about the families who were the original landowners of the Caboolture area. Names gathered from old maps formed the starting place for the project and the Society aims to record the stories of their lives and their families during the European settlement of the region. Several families have already had their stories/history recorded by descendants and some of these publications are held by the Society. The stories of other families are yet to be recorded. The Society's mission is to record their stories and the part they played in the region.

The Society has a 'Founding Families Open Day' on Sunday 15 October from 12.30pm to enable visitors to view the research project, and to contribute information, photos, documents and stories. Contacts: cfhrg55@outlook.com, or (07) 5528 2018.

BIGGENDEN'S BIG WEEKEND

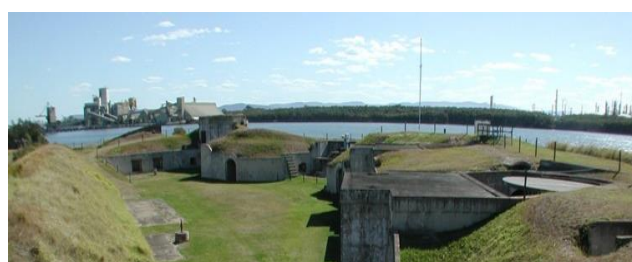
13-15 OCTOBER 2023

CELEBRATING WILLIAM HENRY WALSH 200TH BIRTHDAY



First event is *Wall of Fame* book launch and supper, Degilbo Hall, 7pm, Friday 13 October. Bookings are essential: www.biggenden.net Email: biggenden@outlook.com Moira Thompson 0458 365 051 Fiona McDonald Baylis 0427 067 574.

**Fort Lytton Historic Military Precinct, and
Fort Lytton Historical Association Inc**



Fort Lytton at Night — *A Lost Story from the Great War* will be performed on Friday 6 October.

Start: 7pm; conclusion: 8.15pm

Bookings essential: 3393 4647

Tickets: adult \$30; concession \$25; groups of 10 or more \$20 per person.

The Gap Historical Society Inc

Timeline books

As noted earlier the Society is about to close. There are still a few copies of its Timeline book available. More than 90 have been sold or donated. Copies are available from Don Willsher, mob 0408 012 689. The price is \$25.00 per copy.



WINDSOR AND DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

The Society is housed in a unique heritage-listed stone local government building, the Windsor Shire/Town Chambers, built in 1897 out of Brisbane Tuff mined on the site.

Chambers are open Sundays and Mondays from 1pm to 4pm with Society volunteer members in attendance. Also opened by appointment. This is a must place to visit for people who live, or have lived, in this historical district.

The Society maintains a large photographic and memorabilia display of the history of the area. The collection includes photographs of early settlers, historic homes and schools. A large collection of family and other local resource files has been established including selected Post Office Directories, Electoral Rolls and over 80 Real Estate maps from 1870s to 1920s. Complete listings of council members have been compiled and the Mayor's Chair, used up to 1925 in the main chambers, is a featured display.

A reference listing of over 27,000 burials at Lutwyche Cemetery is available for researchers. Woolloowin SS enrolments and Windsor SS indexes of enrolments are available. Historical books of the area are available for sale. Copies of historical Estate Maps may be purchased. The mini-museum collection contains stonemason's tools, local bottles and other historical items. Bricks from famous houses and local brickyards are also on display.

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND Inc

Enriching family history

The Society's Interest Groups include:

- Colonial and Convict Connections Group
- English/Irish Group
- German Interest Group
- Scandinavian Interest Group
- Scottish Group
- Writing Group
- DNA Group
- Family History Technology Group, and
- Military Group.

Descendants of the Australian South Sea Islanders Association Inc (DASSI Inc)

Our organisation has been in existence for over 25 years, first becoming incorporated in 1996. We formed to support and advocate for our Australian South Sea Islander community in the areas of health, housing, education, justice, cultural and historical preservation.

DASSI Inc is based on the Sunshine Coast and supports Australian South Sea Islanders across the southeast corner and beyond. The DASSI Inc management committee meets once a month at Bli Bli, close to the sugar cane farms not far from the Maroochy River, where our forefathers cleared the land, lived and, grew/harvested sugar cane.



The official Australian South Sea Islander flag was initially designed with the ASSI community and executive of the then 1994 Australian South Sea Islander United Council which had branches all along the east coast of Australia gathered together to lobby for national recognition of ASSIs.

There was a recognised need for a flag that would stand with distinction alongside other flags and represent the ASSI community.

The flag's design, by choice, compliments the national Australian flag in sizing and representation. The colour scheme incorporates colours resonant to people with forebears taken from the 83 islands of Vanuatu, represented by the colours green, gold and black, and from the Solomon Islands, represented by the colours blue, white and green. The overall flag is inclusive of other parts of the South Pacific affected by Blackbirding as we are all connected through the ocean (blue) and stars (white). Today, this flag is a sense of pride for all ASSI communities.

(This information about DASSI Inc is a slightly edited version of information on the website <https://dassisunshinecoast.com.au>.)

Cooktown glass plate negatives collection digitised

State Library recently digitised a large number of images from the [James Cook Historical Museum](#) and [Cooktown & District Historical Society's](#) photographic and glass plate negative collection.

This collection includes photographs mostly of the Cooktown area, but also Papua New Guinea, Bloomfield River, Cairns, Rossville and the Annan River region. There are studio portraits, photographs of horses and horseracing, social events and commemorations, funerals, church events, cyclone damage, sawmills and mining.

You are able to view, download and share all 431 digitised and out of copyright images on State Library's catalogue, [One Search](#).

Jacinta Sutton, State Library of Queensland

Purpose built — Architecture for a better tomorrow

Free exhibition until 14 April 2024, SLQ Gallery, level 2

Experience the transformative potential of architectural design and its pivotal role in shaping communities and shifting perspectives of housing today.

From digitisation and material innovations to water-sensitive design, new approaches to housing typologies, and the vital role of community involvement in design and planning conversations, this exhibition proposes a future with a purposeful approach to the built environment.

Purpose built is an immersive exhibition consisting of large-scale installations developed with research groups from the University of Queensland's School of Architecture, Design and Planning.

This exhibition is a joint initiative of the University of Queensland and State Library of Queensland.

From the Lab: removing photographs from self-adhesive album pages

Many of us come across the older-style photograph albums with 'removable' sticky, synthetic adhesives in local history collections, or our own. However, over time the adhesive becomes less sticky and the photographs become less removable. Attempting to remove them from the pages mechanically can cause damage to our precious photographs. For this album, a solvent vapour chamber technique was used to gently release the photographs from the self-adhesive album pages.

Whole pages from the album were split in half and sandwiched with pieces of Reemay® and blotter paper soaked in solvent. The package was then placed inside a Mylar® sleeve and sealed. After being in the chamber for a few minutes, the photographic prints released and were able to be peeled off the self-adhesive album pages using a Teflon spatula. The photographs will be rehoused and adhered to archival board in the same arrangement as the original album, to last for generations to come.

Considered storage solutions will ensure the longevity of your mementos. Send your conservation questions via [Ask a Librarian](#) or request an appointment to meet with a conservator at the Library.

Emma Morrison, Graduate Conservator, State Library of Queensland