



NEWS

The latest from History Queensland Inc

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Vol 11, no 4

December 2024

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO HQ'S 6-MONTHLY MEETING (SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER)

The past six months have seen a number of initiatives taken by your committee in addition to the preparations for the 5th History Queensland State Conference to be held in conjunction with the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisation's 17th Congress in Brisbane from 21st to 24th March 2025.

History Queensland was pleased to be able to offer Small Grants of up to \$2,000 to our members this year. We were delighted to receive 18 applications for the grants and to be able to disperse funds to seven of our members to assist with their projects. On behalf of History Queensland, I would like to thank our independent assessment panel comprising Stephanie Ryan from State Library of Queensland, Niles Elvery, formerly of Queensland State Archives, and Janice Cooper, local historian, for their hard work in assessing the applications and their recommendations. I am pleased to advise that your management committee has decided to offer the Small Grants program again in 2025, details of which will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in May next year.

Your societies would have received notification from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) about the new requirement for incorporated not-for-profit groups which have an ABN to undertake a self-review and requirement to report to the ATO. After consultation with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC), Valerie, the HQ Secretary, co-ordinated bulk registration as charities of those of our member societies which did not already have that status, therefore eliminating the requirement to undertake the self-review required by the ATO. A number of our members were already registered, some were not interested in bulk registration, and there were a significant number which did not respond to the offer made by HQ. Valerie facilitated the bulk registrations on a one-off basis, however if further members wish to register with ACNC in the future, HQ will be in a position to provide advice on the process. I wish to acknowledge the hard work put into this project by Valerie, who had a number of discussions with officers from ACNC and who undertook the tedious process of gathering information from members and compiling this into the correct format. Well done, Valerie.

History Queensland offered monetary support to regional members who wish to attend the 2025 Conference. Two applications were received within the timeframe, and I am pleased to report that both applications were accepted, making it possible for two of our regional members to take advantage of the early bird registrations for the Conference. Conference preparations are well advanced. There are 219 registrants so far. Early bird registrations will close on 30 November, and I encourage all members to register now so as to take advantage of the discount available.

There is a fabulous lineup of speakers from all over, including the United Kingdom, United States of America, Netherlands, New Zealand, and all States of Australia. All information that you will need is contained on the Connections 2025 website. History Queensland has hired two trade tables which will be set up in the foyer of the conference venue, and we have asked those of our regional and remote members who will not have a presence at the conference to send brochures and other information to be included on the HQ tables, to help promote their activities. As 2025 marks the 30th anniversary of the foundation of HQ, there will also be a special display recognising this milestone. We are looking for volunteers to supervise the tables throughout the three days of the conference, so if you have an hour or two to spare, please let one of the management committee members know so you are included in the roster.

Speaking of the 30th anniversary of the founding of History Queensland (or Queensland Association of Local and Family History Societies as it was first known), we are hoping to hold a special event to coincide with the Annual General Meeting next year. Details of this will be announced well in advance by email, newsletter and social media.

History Queensland currently has 138 members with the latest additions being Queensland Military Historical Society Inc., Jimna Hall Historic Society (Jimna Forest Action Group Inc), and Queensland Muslim Cultural and Heritage Centre.

In conclusion, I would like to thank members of the Management Committee who have given me support over the last six months, and in particular Valerie who manages to keep us all on track.

Kay Ryan, President, History Queensland

HQ PATRON, SHAUNA HICKS, AWARDED OAM IN KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST FOR SERVICE TO COMMUNITY HISTORY



Ms Shauna Hicks OAM
For service to community history.

**REPORT BY TREASURER, FAY CARBIS, TO HQ'S 6-MONTHLY MEETING
(SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER)**

**History Queensland Profit & Loss For Period Covering 01/04/2024 to
06/11/2024**

Revenues

Income

Insurance Premium Refunds 2024/2025	\$209.98	
Insurance Premiums 2024/2025	\$38,560.00	
Interest Income		
Business Cheque A/c	\$2.96	
Web Saver Interest	\$482.05	
Total Interest Income	—————	\$485.01
Membership 2024/2025	\$1,699.50	
Total Income	—————	\$40,954.49

Expenses

Expenses

Audit Fees	\$605.00	
Computer	\$375.00	
Conference Expenses	\$235.00	
Incorporation Related Charges	\$23.45	
Insurance		
2024/2025 Public Liability Insurance	\$37,519.98	
Total Insurance	—————	\$37,519.98
Insurance Refund	\$45.00	
Management Liability Insurance	\$555.29	
Meeting Expenses - Hosting	\$100.00	
Photocopying expenses	\$28.00	
Postage	\$30.00	
Small Grants	\$10,053.00	
Total Expenses	—————	\$49,569.72
Total Expenses		\$49,569.72

Net loss for Period	\$8,615.23
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NOTICES FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HQ SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM 2024

As Kay Ryan said in her President's report to History Queensland's 6-Monthly Meeting, HQ offered Small Grants up to \$2000 to members and we received 18 applications. The Small Grants program was announced at the AGM in May and it was envisaged that five grants would be approved.

Applications closed on 31 August 2024 and were reviewed by the Assessment Panel referred to by Kay. The Panel made recommendations to the Management Committee and they were considered and a final decision made to award seven grants to the following HQ members:

- Douglas Shire Historical Society Inc
- Gympie Family History Society Inc
- Kilcoy District Historical Society Inc
- Leyburn District Historical Society Inc
- Redcliffe & District Family History Group Inc
- Woodford Historical Society Inc
- Yarraman & District Historical Society Inc

A total of \$10,053 was awarded in the 2024 Small Grants Program.

Congratulations to the recipients and commiserations to those who missed out. We received so many great applications and it was a very difficult decision narrowing down the final few. So many worthwhile projects and we would have liked to help all applicants.

Valerie Thornton, Secretary, History Queensland

HQ SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM 2025

As Kay said in her report to the 6-Monthly Meeting, the Management Committee has decided to offer the Small Grants Program again in 2025. As before, the total budgeted amount will be about \$10,000, allowing grants of up to \$2000 to be made to five members. Details will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in May.

SEEKING SUGGESTIONS FOR A VENUE FOR OUR MAY 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, AND CELEBRATION OF HQ'S 30th BIRTHDAY

The Management Committee has carefully considered its preferred venue in South Brisbane for May's AGM and a concurrent celebration of HQ's 30th birthday, however the venue's charges are higher than we expected. Consequently, suggestions for a venue are being sought. They may ideally include venues that also offer catering for a light lunch. Venues such as nice hotel function rooms, sporting clubs with function rooms, RSL branches, sailing clubs, etc may be suitable. Many such venues already host meetings of community clubs such as Probus, Rotary and Lions, and so will have AV equipment, cables, mikes, lecterns, etc that we could use. Suggestions welcome to HQ's Secretary:

secretary@historyqueensland.org.au .

REQUEST THAT NEW INSURANCE PROPOSAL FORMS BE COMPLETED PROMPTLY

In her report to HQ's 6-Monthly Meeting, Helen Turner, Insurance Liaison Officer, said that Christine Reith (our broker) will shortly be emailing out new proposal forms for societies to complete and return to her. Helen asked that societies endeavour to complete the proposal forms and return them as soon as possible as the information provided will be the information Christine uses to formulate insurance premiums for the 2025/26 insurance period.

ACNC REGISTRATION IS RECOMMENDED

Members will recall that Valerie, HQ's hard-working Secretary, recently arranged with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission for the bulk registration with the ACNC of a number of members. The advantages of registration include that some ATO reporting requirements do not apply. The committee recommends that members which are eligible for registration but have not obtained registration should consider doing so: it will make their own lives easier! On the basis of the knowledge Valerie gained of ACNC's requirements and the procedure for seeking registration, she will be able to give some pointers if a member needs them: secretary@historyqueensland.org.au .

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO STAFF THE HQ TABLE AT THE CONNECTIONS 2025 CONFERENCE, 21-24 MARCH

The conference will be held at Brisbane Technology Park, 1 Clunies Ross Court, Eight Mile Plains. There will be a History Queensland display at an exhibitor's table, with items on display including copies of HQ's first newsletter and a recent newsletter, and if possible an interactive map showing where HQ members are located.



Volunteers will be needed to staff the table. Volunteers are asked to nominate the day or day upon which they will be available, and whether morning or afternoon. Volunteers need not be registrants for the conference. The rules for the conference prohibit the bringing of food into the conference centre, but lunch will be available for purchase: as a way thanking volunteers, HQ will cover the cost of their lunches, and morning and afternoon tea if available. Offers of assistance will be welcome and may be made to the secretary: secretary@historyqueensland.org.au

HQ TRADE TABLES TO DISPLAY MATERIAL FROM MEMBERS WITHOUT THEIR OWN TABLES

HQ will also have trade tables at the Connections 2025 conference to provide members with an opportunity to display takeaway brochures, membership forms and information about themselves and their activities, even if they do not have their own exhibitor's table. This will be a chance for members to have their names and activities before a large and varied audience of delegates from Queensland and interstate and elsewhere at a time when community groups are finding it hard to be seen because of information overload.

Members who wish to take advantage of this opportunity should start thinking about what items they wish to display. Nearer the date of the conference, members will be invited to send their material by Friday 7 March to an address nominated by GSQ, the conference organisers. The material supplied for display should **not** include original or important material because HQ will not be able to return any material left at the end of the conference.

**CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN HOSTING THE NEXT
HQ CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, PROBABLY IN MAY 2027**

Though it may seem early to be considering the hosting of the 2027 History Queensland Conference, the Management Committee is calling for expressions of interest in hosting the 2027 Conference and Annual General Meeting, probably to be held in about May. Substantial lead-time is necessary for an event like this to ensure that sufficient time is available to make all the necessary arrangements. The Conference will be a History Queensland Conference and will not be held jointly with AFFHO.

Societies may wish to consider proposing different Conference formats, for instance a Conference in an electronic digital format only, or a combination of personal and electronic attendance, or a Conference of one day only rather than the customary 1½ or two days. Offers or queries are welcome to HQ's secretary: secretary@historyqueensland.org.au .

**PLEASE INFORM THE HQ SECRETARY OF CHANGES TO MEMBER SOCIETIES'
CONTACTS, EMAIL ADDRESS, OR PHONE NOS**

History Queensland's Secretary asks that if a member society's contacts, email, or phone numbers change, could the Secretary please be informed as soon as possible? HQ has 138 members and avoiding the need for the Secretary to follow-up undelivered emails or incorrect phone numbers would make her job more manageable : secretary@historyqueensland.org.au .

YUNGABA IMMIGRATION DEPOT



Yungaba Immigration Depot at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, 1907

Source: State Library of Queensland, negative number: 48341

**KENMORE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY —
THE HERITAGE TRAIL PROJECT AT RAFTING GROUND RESERVE**

The Kenmore & District Historical Society has installed a Heritage Trail in Rafting Ground Reserve at Brookfield. The initiative was in conjunction with the Brookfield & District Museum and Historical Society and with support from other local groups. It was funded by the Brisbane City Council through local Councillor Greg Adermann.

The Reserve is adjacent to the old Rafting Ground where the logs were assembled to float down the Brisbane River to the sawmills. A bridge links the Reserve and the old Rafting Ground.

This project required a path to be installed through the Reserve to the bridge. Along the path interpretive signs tell the story. This area, including the suburbs from Kenmore out to Mt Crosby, provided a valuable source of timber in the mid-1800s. The timber was felled and hauled from the forest by bullock teams and transported to the rafting ground where the logs were tied together with vines and chains. They were then floated down Moggill Creek to the Brisbane River. From there it took several days, using the outgoing tide, for the logs to reach the sawmills in Brisbane.

The trail starts with the story of the local area. The signage along the way begins the story of the timber that was abundant in the area and essential for railway bridges and sleepers, wharf pylons, telegraph poles, housing construction and firewood in the new colony.

And the trail and signage continue with the timber-getters' role in cutting down the huge trees. Next, there is a story of the bullockies and their bullock teams, and many of the early families who were involved in this activity are recognised. It continues with the story of the Rafting Ground. Along the path, trees were planted which were of the same species as those felled.

The trail was officially opened in August by Councillor Greg Adermann and the State member Dr Christian Rowan MP. This was the first opportunity for the public to walk the trail and read the stories. The historical societies believe this is an important story to tell about our local history, and by placing the signs fairly low and with well-explained stories, it will be suitable for children as well as adults.



Kenmore Heritage Trail, Opening Day



Kenmore Heritage Trail Opening Day

L to r: Councillor Greg Adermann; Judy Magub (President, Kenmore & District Historical Society);
Dr Christian Rowan MP,

**THE BOULEVARD, THEODORE, QUEENSLAND, c1920s,
LOOKING TOWARDS THE WATER TOWER,**



Source: Banana Shire Library, State Library of Qld digital collection

**AUSTRALASIAN CONFERENCE 21 TO 24 MARCH 2025
CONNECTIONS – PAST – PRESENT – FUTURE**

Three Keynote Speakers
Six Master Classes
Forty Two Specialist Speakers

Australasian Conference 2025
CONNECTIONS
Past - Present - Future
Family History - Genealogy - Local History

Brisbane | 21 to 24 March 2025

Join us for Connections 2025 - Australasia's premier event for local and family historians, ancestry researchers and genealogists to uncover the past, celebrate the present and tap into the future.

AFFHO Together we can achieve much more!
 GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND Inc
Enriching family history
 HISTORY QUEENSLAND INC.

Full details and registration here:
www.connections2025.org.au
office@connections2025.org.au

The Conference themes are Diaspora (Migration), Looking Forward, and Local History.

The Conference will be held at the Brisbane Technology Park, 1 Clunies Ross Court, Eight Mile Plains, and that will be the venue for all Conference themes as well as the trade hall and vendor demonstrations, along with the Conference dinner for Saturday 22 March registrants only (\$66 with cash bar available), and the AFFHO Annual General Meeting.

Full details including the Conference program are contained on the Conference website, www.connections2025.org.au. The per day rate for one- or two-day attendance packages is \$260, and the full conference rate is \$515 (early bird discounts were available until 30 November 2024). The organisers report that numerous raffle prizes have been donated, and support for exhibitors' tables at the conference has been pleasing with a total of 32 currently planned.

There will be six Master Classes with a limit of 25 attendees per class at \$75 per session per person. Details to be advised. There will also be four tours on offer, with the themes Convict Heritage, Early Settlers, and Military.

**WANTED: HELP WITH FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH
IN CONNECTION WITH NORTHERN IRELAND**

There is much interest in Family History research in connection with Eire, and consequently indexes and 'how to' books and guides are readily available. (Unfortunately, some records were lost during the Irish Civil War, or have not yet been transcribed, for instance Parish Registers.) But Family History in connection with Northern Ireland – the six counties still part of the United Kingdom – is a neglected area of research. In 2025 we would like to include in the newsletter a segment containing suggestions for starting points, issues, and answers to FAQ in relation to Northern Ireland Family History research. Contributions to the discussion will be welcome: newsletter@historyqueensland.org.au.

FREE ONLINE LIBRARY CATALOGUING APPLICATION



LibraryThing

A Home For Your Books.

LibraryThing is a free, library-quality catalogue to track reading progress or your whole library.

In their report to HQ's 6-Monthly Meeting on Sunday 17 November, Bribie Family History Association Inc mentioned that they were using a free online library cataloguing application to catalogue their library:

'The Association's own book library continues to grow and now has a physical presence for borrowing, utilizing LibraryThing (<https://www.librarything.com/>) as our free online catalogue. Members can see what we have and then ask to borrow the book/s between meetings.'

According to <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LibraryThing> , the developer of LibraryThing Initially intended to make a series of products suitable for use for academic libraries, but general cataloguing opportunities, and challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, led to the application being made 'free to all.' According to LibraryThing's website, the application is used by almost 5000 libraries.

If a member is looking for a cataloguing application that will make their library catalogue available for members to see and work with online, LibraryThing may be worth considering.

FIFTEEN MEMBERS OF THE MAROOCHYDORE LIFE SAVING CLUB, c1920s



Source: State Library of Queensland digital collection

ONLINE RAFFLE FOR CONNECTIONS 2025 CONFERENCE



BRISBANE | 3-Day Conference
21 - 24 March 2025

Purchase your raffle tickets online for your chance to WIN - 18 amazing prizes!



ONLINE RAFFLE

18 Prizes to WIN!

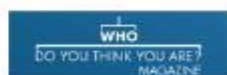
Use the QR CODE to view the amazing prizes available to win on each day of the Conference 2025.

3 DAYS OF PRIZES - BUY A RAFFLE TICKET FOR EACH DAYS MULTI-DRAW

ONE (1) ticket - \$5 | THREE (3) tickets - \$10 | SEVEN (7) tickets - \$20 | TWENTY (20) tickets - \$50

[One multi-draw raffle will be conducted each day of the conference. Winners do not need to be present at the conference to claim prizes.]

www.connections2025.org.au/raffle



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND Inc.
Enriching family history



HISTORY QUEENSLAND INC — 2024-2025 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President – Kay Ryan president@historyqueensland.org.au AFFHO Qld 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 HQ Representative (Gold Coast Family History Society Inc)
 Insurance Liaison Officer – Helen Turner insurance@historyqueensland.org.au (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, Sandgate & District Historical Society & Museum)
 Committee members –
 Claire Rodwell (Genealogical Society of Queensland)
 Kerry Beeton (Bribie Family History Association Inc)
 Janeth Deen (Queensland Muslim Historical Society and Mount Gravatt Historical Society)

SOCIETIES' WRITTEN REPORTS PROVIDED AHEAD OF HQ'S 6-MONTHLY MEETING

BLACKBUTT & DISTRICT TOURISM AND HERITAGE ASSOC INC

Tagalong Tours continue to be very popular and have become a good way to attract new members. We visited Jimna and surrounds, hearing the history of the Jimna Fire Tower and the fight to save it as well as visiting the Jimna State forest complex now run by HQ Plantations. The second Tagalong was a return to the Burgess Collection outside Crows Nest, Crows Nest Museum and the Gin Distillery.

The Timbertown Tribute Night was a huge success with local timber families including the Argent family (Champion Woodchoppers) joining in the celebration with local organizations helping us to raise \$10,000 towards our Timber Museum project.

The Timber Documentary by Joel Thomas has been completed; funding was provided by the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) in association with the South Burnett Regional Council. The launch, along with the unveiling of the Janet Skinner Art Collection in the Blackbutt Hall, will be held on Saturday 29 November.

The Timber Museum Project is ongoing with a huge task ahead. Design plans are being drawn up and SBR Council is very supportive and has given us appropriate ways to restore the Jimna Store shed to save costs and still be within the building requirements. We need to raise \$100,000 to relocate the building from Jimna and renovate. Unfortunately, the submission to the Gambling Community benefit Fund for \$100,000 was unsuccessful. All donations will be most appreciated.

We participated in both the Stonehouse Open Day at Moore and the History Expo at Esk. We thank both organisations for giving us the opportunity to showcase our organization.

BRIBIE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION INC

Our current membership is 38 with a Facebook membership of 65. We meet in the Anzac Room, thanks to the ongoing support of the RSL Club. We welcomed speakers with topics on female ancestors, diaries, research strategies and police records. Members' meetings (two per year) share individual progress, insights and a few 'BSO' leading to more adventures and discoveries. Our recent workshop 'Writing Family History' with Sue Reid and Clem Dutton included how to write and prepare a family history for publication.

Family History Month saw the group, in association with the Bribie library, present a display of charts, biographies, photos, stories and books available from the library. We have been invited to display again in 2025.

The Association's own book library continues to grow and now has a physical presence for borrowing, utilizing LibraryThing (<https://www.librarything.com/>) as our free online catalogue. Members can see what we have and then ask to borrow the book/s between meetings. Planning for 2025 is underway with our February meeting on researching in Ireland.

We would like to thank Valerie Thornton for her assistance in organising the bulk registration of small groups within History Queensland.

BRIBIE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

We have been established for 16 years and are very visible and respected, and recognized by community and local media on a wide range of local historical issues. We are regularly contacted by people from far and near with interesting connections to Bribie History.

We have a significant collection of historical documents, photos, maps and information in a database, with selected items on our blog site <http://bribieislandhistory.blogspot.com> and our website <http://www.bribiehistoricalsociety.org.au> with many stories and photos of Bribie's history. We are hopeful that Bribie's oldest building, the former Methodist Church and Freemasons lodge recently acquired by Council, will eventually be made available for our future use after Council refurbishment.

Membership fell slightly following the early years of Covid but most of our 75 members and 3 life members attend monthly meetings. We attract excellent visiting guest speakers as well as members presenting on a wide range of topics. Broader community contact is achieved by conducting weekly classes on Bribie History at the University of the Third Age (U3A), and regular articles published in the fortnightly Bribie Islander magazine delivered free to all households. We also provide guest speakers on specific or general aspects of Bribie History to local clubs and groups, recently including National Seniors, Probus, Rotary, Museum, Library and U3A public insights.

For the Shifting Shores exhibition, three of our members were filmed and interviewed for the current exhibition at the Seaside Museum about Bribie Beaches. We were asked by Queensland Military History Society to write a paper about Bribie in World War 2 for their annual publication; the paper has now been submitted for review prior to publication.

We have produced three free brochures on Historic walking tracks and WW2 which are available at the Museum and Visitors' Centre; we also sell our published books at appropriate locations and events. Over the years we have installed many informative plaques and signs around Bribie Island which attract much public attention and reveal the rich history of the island.

Last year we proudly unveiled a life-size sculpture of Matthew Flinders and Bongaree outside the Museum, with informative plaques telling their story. It is significant that this is the first and only public image of Bongaree in the world and was achieved with the full support of many indigenous groups. That they were the first to circumnavigate this continent and gave it the name AUSTRALIA which was later officially adopted, always attracts great interest from residents and visitors.

We jointly sponsored and hosted the Moreton Bay Penal Colony Bicentenary Conference on 7 September with Redcliffe and RHSQ and wrote an article for the future publication; two of our members served on the successful organising committee. We also contributed to the Centenary of the Bribie Island State School on 24 August.

CALOUNDRA FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH INC

As usual our group has been very busy. We celebrated our 31st Birthday in May. Guest speakers were organised for all our monthly meetings except August when we had our DNA Seminar with Shauna Hicks and Helen Smith imparting their considerable knowledge to our members and the public. During the last six months we visited the Caboolture Family History Research Group & Historic Village, QFHS, and SLQ; we also had a 'different' day out at the QCAMEL Dairy Farm in Caloundra South. We celebrated the reinterment of Matthew Flinders on 13 July by visiting his memorial on Steve Irwin Way at Tibrogargan Creek, where he camped on his way to climb Mt Beerburum. We also had a table at a Seniors Expo and presented a talk in August at the Landsborough Museum.

Our 2023-24 Committee applied successfully for a Sunshine Coast Council Grant which will be a tremendous help with our rent and annual costs such as insurance premiums etc. We conducted walks down the length of Bulcock Street as well as along Bulcock Beach Esplanade for the Council Heritage Department, and attended some of their educational workshops and talks by their Historians in Residence.

The 2023-24 Committee also worked throughout the last financial year to completely overhaul our Constitution which was ratified by members at the September General Meeting. We were successful in gaining a Gambling Grant which had been applied for by the 2023-24 Committee and finalised by our current Grants Officer.

Our nine Interest Groups tick along, meeting each month, and our Training Officer keeps our education 'up to speed' with her courses on Word and Excel, and our family history resources on the web. She also conducts our 'War Histories of our Soldiers' project and co-ordinates a Writers' Interest Group. Each July we have a Welcome Morning Tea for new members, as well as a Christmas in July Lunch to thank our volunteers who work tirelessly, not only in our rooms, but also at home, at our Bunnings Sausage Sizzles and cake stalls and at other events. And all of a sudden, it's almost Christmas, celebrated with a Festive Lunch late in November before closing on Saturday 14 December to renew our energy to face 2025!

CAPRICORN COAST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

At the AGM on 19 September there was a change in the executive with Peter Roper replacing Jim Goodsell as President. Di Roper continues as Secretary with Dorothy Muller as Treasurer and Peter Cook as Vice-President. Meetings in 'The Bunker' have been disrupted with Council undertaking work to treat mould and painting. Now completed, we are returning to normal activities. Trips included a visit to Calliope Historical Village, the Canal Creek air crash site for the 80th Anniversary, and St Christopher's Chapel for the Annual commemorative service for WW2 soldiers.

Education of younger generations is an important part of our activities. A high school History Day at Yeppoon High School and guiding primary school students from Sacred Heart School to historical sites fosters their interest. A daily display at the Yeppoon Show, this year on Railway History, stimulates older generations. Production of a calendar with photos and 18 books on local history keep the public informed and provides a steady income towards a healthy bank balance.

CENTRAL QLD FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION

The CQFHA facilities have seen considerable enhancements both externally and internally. The building's exterior has been repainted, and rearrangements in shelving and resource organization have maximized space for visitors in the club rooms. Our team has dedicated significant effort towards securing grants to support our initiatives. A notable achievement this year was the completion of the Anglican records project: numerous members contributed to photographing, indexing, verifying, collating, and producing a user-friendly product; their collective effort has been truly remarkable. While our membership numbers have declined over recent years, the committee is actively working on enhancing the association's visibility within the community. CQFHA intends to offer more educational sessions throughout 2025. These sessions are designed to generate additional revenue to help cover operational costs by boosting membership.

We plan to hold two Beginners Days in 2025; the first will take place on 15 February with a focus on DNA. Following this event, we aim to provide personal one-on-one DNA lessons. The second Beginners Day, scheduled for 14 June, will follow our usual program. We have established a strong collaboration with the Gracemere RSL branch. Their President delivered a presentation at our June general meeting, and Chris Wright, a CQFHA member, was set to speak at the Gracemere RSL on Remembrance Day in November.

Our CQ-Genealogist Journal continues to be published three times a year. Currently, 32% of our members reside outside the Rockhampton area, and we have a total of 111 members, including 6 life members.

COORPAROO & DISTRICT HERITAGE GROUP

The group was formed in 1991 and has constantly been meeting bi-monthly ever since (apart from the Covid shut-down). The group meets on the first Saturday of each even-numbered month at 2pm at the Queen Alexander Home Community Centre, 347 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo. The group has a membership of over 50, with approx 20-30 attending each meeting. The group has had an interesting selection of guest speakers and in recent years held a bus excursion to a Brisbane suburb to view the heritage listed buildings. Unfortunately, these bus tours have stopped because of excessive bus hire costs. However, these tours have been replaced with a virtual bus tour of the suburb in the comfort of the group's meeting room. These virtual tours have been popular as members can have a better look at the buildings and hear about them: this is better than in a real bus tour because it is not always possible for a tour bus to stop outside a building of interest. At each December meeting the group

conducts a raffle and after the meeting has a Christmas celebration. This is the only fund-raising the group conducts. Visitors are always welcome.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC

Plans for the 17th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry, incorporating the 5th History Queensland Conference, 21-24 March 2025 are proceeding well. Bookings are pleasing, although we're expecting a flourish as Early Bird finishes on 30 November.

GSQ's Annual General Meeting was conducted earlier in November utilizing our Hybrid system – some members at our premises and others at home online. Attendance totaled 46. All positions on the Management Committee were filled. GSQ's Strategic Plan 2025-2027 was presented at the AGM and gained approval from all present. The Plan includes the development of a new website in 2025.

GENEALOGY SUNSHINE COAST

Genealogy Sunshine Coast has had an interesting six months. The Queensland Home Garden Expo is held in Nambour each July, and this year attracted over 40,000 visitors. Genealogy Sunshine Coast was fortunate to have a site in the main marquee; this was an excellent opportunity to showcase Family History in general as well as providing an insight into what GSC offers. Beginners' Classes conducted one day a week over three consecutive weeks have proved very popular. The third one for the year will commence shortly, and again is booked to capacity.

Attendance at General Meetings has been less than we would like: as with other organisations this seems to be a fallout from Covid times. But although numbers have often been small, interest and enthusiasm have been pleasing. Family Heritage Month was celebrated with a well-attended Open Day which resulted in some new members, always a good thing. Three new Life Members were elected at the AGM in August; it's pleasing to be able to acknowledge outstanding contributions to our Society.

GSC gratefully acknowledges the receipt of a Grant from Sunshine Coast Regional Council to assist with our day-to-day costs. Much work has gone into our Strategic Plan and our Calendar for 2025. We look forward, with optimism, to a successful and rewarding time, promoting the joys (and brick walls!) of Family History.

GLASSHOUSE HISTORY GROUP INC

Our final Community Meeting for 2024 is scheduled for Tuesday 19 November (regularly the 3rd Tuesday of the month). Numbers at these meetings have settled to about 12 people each month and an advertised theme sees a variety of historic photographs and objects presented for discussion. Themes have included:

- Change to Decimal Currency in 1966
- Early Banking (Passbooks, Money Boxes etc.)
- War Memorabilia
- Mothers
- Primary Schooling
- First Paid Job
- 21st Birthdays
- Licenses, Passports, Permits & Ration Cards
- Hand Tools & Kitchenalia no longer in use

Facebook Posts are usually a consequence of the Community Meetings and feature people, objects or photos. There are currently over 1200 'followers' of these Posts. The 'Professional Dashboard' related to the Facebook Page can provide a range of information as to the users of the Page. For example, the Glasshouse History Facebook Page shows:

Gender: 61% Women and 39% Men access the Page

Age: The highest Age Group accessing the Page is 45-54 years

Location: The location of users is Sunshine Coast (highest), Brisbane, Caboolture, Ipswich, Gold Coast.

The editor of the local newspaper (Glasshouse Country & Maleny News, which is distributed weekly) is happy to publish items of historical interest. Usually these run to 200-300 words supported by a good quality photograph.

GOLD COAST FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

It has taken some months in the planning and in the execution but the Society has achieved an amazing transformation in our Library Research Rooms. More space has been created by re-positioning library book shelving around the perimeter of the main room. We received two metal cabinets from Council for additional storage. Computer and scanning equipment are now located in a more compact area in front of the shelving. This has allowed a larger area for seating either around tables or in a theatre format for presentations and Mini Seminars. The Society received 13 boxes of books from the Local Studies Library in Southport when they were rationalising their collections, and Heather is busy sorting through some wonderful treasures.

We gratefully received two Council Grants in the last 6 months. Two computers were purchased with \$3650 and another computer was purchased with \$1960. Presentations at various organisations and libraries as well as publicity in the local Over Fifties monthly publications are raising awareness of the Society and thus helping to sustain our membership level.

INNISFAIL & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Earlier in the year our Society was fortunate in obtaining a grant from the Queensland Government and Gambling Community Benefit Funds Unit for some display shelving, a new 'Museum Open' flag and magnetised covers for under display cases to increase storage space. The shelves are in place and some artefacts relocated with further reorganisation required.

September saw another successful Tropical Art Deco Festival which spanned eight days this year. All events were well received with the High Tea and Vintage Markets proving very popular. We expect that over the Christmas period visitor numbers will fall off so our volunteers will take a well-earned break. We continue to receive regular requests for information through various channels and we do our best to answer them.

KENMORE AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society began in 2015 in western Brisbane and has continued its existence and its operations since then. We currently have 43 members and we meet in the Kenmore Library in the evening of the third Thursday each month. The six-member Committee meets a week earlier each month.

We continue to have free access to an office with storage facilities in a building used by the RSL at Pullenvale. We sell books written by Society members at community events; in the past month we earned \$400 that way. We also sell books on commission through the Kenmore East Post Office and the IGA at Pullenvale.

Our monthly meetings in the Kenmore Library always feature a Guest Speaker. In the last six months we have enjoyed talks on subjects as diverse as James Stones' Ginger Beer business (that named Stone's Corner in South Brisbane), Kaye Nardella from the Lands Department talking about conducting historic land research, and Janet Spillman talking about one of her books on the war history of Mt Coot-tha. Read about our part in the 'Heritage Trail' recently opened at Rafting Ground Park at Pullenvale in the HQ Newsletter.

KILCOY DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Kilcoy District Historical Society Inc, Hall of History, is now open five half-days during the week plus most Sunday mornings and Saturday Market Days.

- Visitors to the Hall of History average around 200 per week
- Bi-monthly Newsletters issued to 377 recipients via 'Mailchimp' –
 - Promoting membership
 - Sharing history stories in our publications
 - And are also available on our webpage www.kilcoydistricthistoricalsociety.com
- Notable recent Newsletter articles/displays:
 - The Timber Industry in the district (Mill history and Transport), a display held at the Kilcoy Show beside the woodchopping, chainsaw arena
 - KDHS Inc celebrating 25 years – our story
 - St Mary's Anglican Church 125 years – 'weddings display' listing every marriage in the church since inception. Gowns and Photo display including wedding certificates and priests
 - Kilcoy Courthouse history which is now our Art Gallery in Yowie Park.

- Project - Grant approved for a Mural covering the entire side of the Hall of History including lighting, Kilcoy Railway Station image, train and gathering.
- Assisting the 'Friends of the Jinibara People' – creating banners to use at their displays and also the Kilcoy Information Centre.

MOUNT GRAVATT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

The Society has lost many long-time members due to poor health and some have passed away. However, we now have new members who are working in the hall at the show grounds and have invited local residents.

We are happy that the Society is running smoothly. Janeth Deen (President) brought new ideas into the Society. In August we had a display at the Mt Gravatt Show which was well attended even by the Premier. We had a display at Wellers Hills Bowls Club for Seniors Week and had good exposure and many visitors.

We also attended the 150-year celebration at Mt Gravatt Primary School, during which we discovered that the school holds records dating back 150 years!

NORTH PINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

I don't have much to report at this point, we lost another of our long-time members, Joan Baker-Winn, and so we are just trying to keep members interested in the local history and attending our meetings.

ORAL HISTORY QUEENSLAND INC

On 27 June this year, several members of Oral History Queensland (OHQ) gathered at the Annerley Stephens History Group meeting room to review our executive roles. Our aim was to reduce the burden of work on committee members and extend an opportunity to ordinary members to become more involved in the work of running the organisation. Three teams emerged from that workshop covering a range of activities including coordinating communications, organising training, and marketing and finding opportunities for OHQ members to showcase their work.

OHQ held its AGM at the end of September and in addition to filling all of our executive positions, we were pleased that all but two of our newly created roles were filled. We plan to fill the remaining positions in the coming year by advertising through our networks.

OHQ joined Volunteering Queensland this year and has benefited from the opportunity to participate in workshops and a personalised gap analysis of the National Standards on Volunteer Involvement, which produced a number of resources to assist with volunteer recruitment.

The 2024 Oral History Australia Biennial Conference takes place in Melbourne from 21-24 November with the theme The Power of Oral History – Risks, Rewards and Possibilities. Several OHQ members will attend and present papers on their oral history projects. We look forward to a busy and fulfilling year.

OXLEY-CHELMER HISTORY GROUP INC

Members have been engaged in several projects concerning centenary projects.

In 2024 we marked the centenary of the passing of the Greater Brisbane City Council Act, under which the previous Sherwood Shire Council ceased to exist. By staging a mock debate, members were able to consider various viewpoints of local residents in 1924 as they contemplated being part of a much larger administrative area.

Preparations are underway for the centenary of the opening of the Sherwood Arboretum in March 2025. This much-loved landmark is now part of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens and reflects the vision of those who established it to highlight the conservation of Queensland trees.

Members continue to meet regularly. An active group of volunteers manages the collection and is setting up procedures towards digitisation.

QUEENSLAND MUSLIM CULTURAL AND HERITAGE CENTRE

The Queensland Muslim Cultural and Heritage Centre (QMCHC) was formed in October 2023 to establish a Museum and a Library that captures and celebrate the rich history, cultural diversity, and contributions of the Muslim community in Queensland. It will provide a space that fosters understanding, promotes social cohesion, and preserves the Australian Muslim shared heritage. Queensland has a rich history of Muslim settlement and contribution dating back to centuries ago. This

underscores the need for a dedicated Museum where tapestry can be curated, celebrated, showcased and appreciated for the generations to come. The primary focus will lie in researching and preserving the history of Mosques and the diverse Muslim communities who have made Australia their home.

The QMCHC will house artefacts, manuscripts, photographs, and oral histories that chronicle the Muslim community's journey in Queensland. Interactive exhibits will engage visitors, providing insights into Islamic art, architecture, and traditions. Themed galleries and rotating exhibits will showcase Queensland's Muslim history, contributions, and cultural heritage. A comprehensive collection of books, manuscripts, and digital resources will be accessible to researchers, students, and the public.

The Museum and Library will provide non-Muslim Australians and the wider Australian public with a better understanding and appreciation of Islamic heritage. The Museum and Library buildings will be built in Underwood Road alongside the Brisbane Islamic Centre which is currently under construction and expected to be completed in 2026. (See www.qmchc.org.au ; for any enquiries, call 0402026786.)

QUEENSLAND MUSLIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society has been mostly involved in showcasing the Museum it created in the hall opposite the Holland Park Mosque.

We have updated our Constitution which has been lodged with Fair Trading. We have had a change in the committee and are happy to now have Assoc Professor Debbie Bargallie from Griffith University as our new President.

Our museum will be moved to the new Brisbane Islamic Centre in Underwood in the new year as we need room for expansion. We have attracted new members which will be an asset in helping us do more research and helping us produce more written history. We are excited about the prospect of being active once more.

REDCLIFFE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

The Redcliffe Numismatic Society (RNS) meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Members visit to learn about a diverse range of topics, including:

- Ancient Roman coins,
- Medieval hammered coins, and
- Modern banknotes, coins and tokens.

The focus of the RNS (through both the monthly meetings and newsletter) is to keep members informed about the ever-changing landscape of world numismatics. There have been some exciting developments in the last 12 months, including the historic change of effigy on our coins to incorporate King Charles III. There have also been a lot of new collecting opportunities.

However, with so much popularity, one of the biggest threats to collecting has been the massive demand for limited releases of new coins and banknotes. So, the meetings have been a great opportunity for members to compare notes and strategies to find sought-after items, while making friends with common interests and having a laugh.

REDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Redland Genealogical Society has had another successful year. We signed a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Redland City Council earlier in the year.

Our main issue, one which I'm certain many organisations are now facing, is the lack of volunteers to support the Society in its work. Having said that, we do have a core of volunteers who work very hard for the organisation and we have had two key positions re-filled during the year: the positions of Membership Officer and Newsletter Editor both became vacant and we were able to fill these.

One exciting aspect during the year related to a box of research documents donated to the Society. Having tried many different strategies to locate somebody to take the documents, we were eventually successful in finding a 98 year old gentleman from Brookfield who was absolutely delighted with what he found in the box, including a photo of his mother!

TOOWOOMBA & DARLING DOWNS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Things continue to run very smoothly at 452 South Street. Our volunteer members who are indexing are constantly adding to our master index for schools as well as the Queensland Government Gazette Index from 1919-1964.

Our latest publication written by Diana Beal – *Squatters, Sinners and Settlers of Clifton Run* – has been extremely popular. We have so far sold 130 copies which has kept Marianne and myself busy printing and binding in the back room. I must admit it gives us a very good profit margin. Ann Glasheen launched it for us on 24 October at the Clifton CWA with over 60 attending. Our next publication, which will be ready early next year, will be vol 8 of *Our Backyard and Beyond*. We have almost completed scanning the Toowoomba City Council rates cards from 1930 to 1977. At the time of writing, we have only two films to go. Then of course we'll need to find another project for those members who have been working on this one.

Although our membership stands at only 148 members (in the society's heyday membership was about 400), we are still getting casual researchers through the doors and Marianne is kept busy answering mail enquiries. We have now installed security cameras on the building after the last episode of damage to headstones in the Cemetery. The husband of one of our members has also installed a gate which is locked. While we had only one broken window, we are hoping to discourage anyone from entering the cemetery through our carpark.

WINDSOR & DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

The Society continues to receive many enquiries for information, and the sales of our books, onsite or through our website, remain steady. With a dedicated committee and volunteers, we aim to continue being a special part of the local community. We operate out of the Old Windsor Council Chamber and open to the public Sundays & Mondays 1-4pm. Our historical photographic display at the Lutwyche Shopping Village continued to the end of October during which the Society participated in the shopping centre's 50th anniversary celebrations, 8-12 October.

The Society's focus now is to prepare for the 100th anniversary celebration (in 2025) of the establishment of the Greater Brisbane City Council in 1925. The Society, which is privileged to occupy the chambers of the original shire/town of Windsor, has a collection of historical records of the shire/town which are to be used for compiling a paper which will be one part of the stories of all the shires and towns which were amalgamated into greater Brisbane. These stories will be presented at a function at City Hall towards the end of 2025. A 100 years of Greater Brisbane Committee has been set up. See www.greaterbrisbanecentenary.com.au, or if you want any further information, please send an email to info@windsorhistorical.org.au.

The Society will also prepare a story about William Jolly. He was Mayor of Windsor five times before being elected the first Mayor of Greater Brisbane in 1925. Many family stories of William Jolly are in the Society's collection, contributed by his family over the years. Anzac Day 2025 also marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of the WW1 Windsor memorial and the society is researching stories of the fallen soldiers named on the memorial. The Society has been conducting the Anzac Day ceremony since 1994.

WOODFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We have to start our report with thanking History Queensland for choosing us to receive a grant from the recent Small Grants Program. We are looking forward to it being put to good use updating our Sawmills of Durundur web site.

A phone call a few months ago from Queensland Racing about the research we had done about Queensland's first female jockey, Woodford girl Eva Draper, led us on a path of connecting cousins who had never met and our research being used when Eva was inducted into the Queensland Hall of Fame this year. It was a wonderful journey meeting new people with connections to Woodford and seeing our research being used for the occasion.

Our President Ron Trim recently celebrated his 90th birthday. There is no slowing him down and he keeps us busy with his stories and memories that need to be recorded.

This year to date we have had displays at six local events and seminars, hosted three family reunions at the museum, had two Anzac Day displays featuring the local Cobb family, started doing monthly podcasts on our local radio station, signed up over 180 children to our new children's club 'The Yarrow Club' and had four free events for the kids, greeted nearly 4,500 visitors to the museum, continued our never-ending researching, and changed our displays every few months. 2025 looks just as busy with plans already in the works for displays, events and research.

WYNNUM MANLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Membership – WMHS currently has 67 paid up members, an increase of 12 in the last 6 months. We are actively seeking new members.

Resource Centre – Is in the Wynnum Community Centre, housed in the old heritage-listed Wynnum Central State School on Florence Street. Open weekdays 10am till noon. Items for sale include books, area guides, Christmas cards and 2025 calendars with old photographs of the area. We have an extensive collection and offer research services.

Wynnum Library – The Merv Beitz History Room at the Wynnum library has many historical documents.

Monthly Meetings – Our monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month in the Wynnum Ambulance Museum. Details on the website.

Baptist Church – A major project this year has been the transfer of the 110-year-old Wynnum Baptist Church to the Iona College grounds, where it is being lovingly restored, and will soon be open for viewing.

Newsletter – We publish a newsletter of 8 to 12 pages every month. Past copies are indexed on our website.

Presentation on Lord Kitchener – Chris Seymour will present a talk on Lord Kitchener at the Wynnum Library at 10am on 28 November. Kitchener visited Wynnum in January 1910 as part of a three-month visit to Australia and New Zealand to review military preparedness. There were 3000 troops camped at Lytton, expecting a parade. Instead, Kitchener ordered them to rise at 2:30 the next morning and march on Capalaba, where an invasion force which had landed at Cleveland was reported to be advancing on Brisbane. The presentation includes archival footage of Kitchener taking the salute as the men marched back from Capalaba that evening. The Wynnum library and the Brisbane City Council have received letters demanding the presentation be cancelled because Kitchener's conduct of the Boer War amounted to a War Crime. The same individual has also demanded that parks and roads in Wynnum and elsewhere with the name Kitchener be renamed. The presentation has a balanced view of this issue but makes the point that the civil administration under High Commissioner Alfred Milner bears much more responsibility for the deaths of Boer children in camps.

Website - www.wmhs.org.au has been updated and expanded.

Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/wynnumhistory>

THE HERITAGE CENTRE, 17 EMERALD STREET, COOROY



Home of the Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical & Historical Research Group Inc.

**NEWS AND ITEMS FROM HERE AND THERE, INCLUDING
FROM MEMBER SOCIETIES' NEWSLETTERS AND WEBSITES**

Windsor and Districts Historical Society Inc



This house was originally known as Rowallan and built in 1884 by the Muir family fronting Kedron Park Rd. The name was chosen after a castle in Scotland where the family came from. In 1898 it became the Woolloowin Boys' Home, maintained by public donations. From 1910 to 1962 it was the Diamantina Receiving Depot, named after Governor Bowen's wife, Lady Diamantina, who was Greek-born and involved in community work. In 1964 it became a Receiving and Assessment Centre, part of the State's Department of Children's Services; it served as a 24 hour crisis facility for the care of children in need

Warilda/Rowallan, 84 Kedron Park Rd, Woolloowin.

Edited extract from the Society's Journal, vol 36 no 4, December 2024.

Annerley Stephens History Group Inc



Part of a promotion for a presentation 'Service Stations – a brief history' held on 4 June 2024, covering the history of Service Stations along Ipswich Rd, Annerley.

Peachester History Committee Inc

The Library Burned, compiled in a joint effort for a competition some years ago. (Highly Commended in the Blackened Billy verse competition in 1997.) Contributed by Allen Hinton, reprinted in the Society's Peach Trees Gazette no 197, November/December 2024.

"When an old man dies, a library burns",
That's what they always said.
I never knew quite what it meant,
'Til I heard that Ted was dead.
I used to see old Ted you know,
Just sitting down the beach,
Each morning with his paper there,
They said he used to teach.

I never got to know you see,
About his life and past,
He took that with him when he went,
'Cause I never thought to ask.
'Cause I was off and running 'round,
I suppose a normal kid.
I never knew how he grew up,
I doubt that many did.

I used to like him though you know,
He used to know my name.
He'd ask me how I went at school,
And when I'd played my game,
He always used to know the score,
Although he wasn't there,
It always used to have me tricked,
(I guess he used to care).

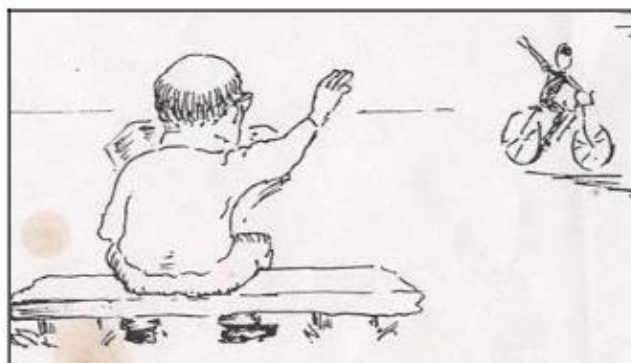
He told me where to find the fish,
He knew where they were on.
And even though he never went,
He knew when they were gone.
He told me when a storm was dur,
He showed me 'Mackerel sky'
That comes two days before the rain
I never asked him why.

Lots of times I used to say,
"I'll bet old Ted would know",
But then I'd always put it off,
With somewhere else to go.
I thought that he'd be always there
'Til I had time for list'ning,
But when I finally had the time,
I found that he was missing.

The funeral was only small
(His friends had mostly gone),
Since he had lived for ninety years,
'Til he was called along.
The eulogy was written from
The papers that they found,
Among his modest private things,
At the local camping ground.

He'd worked on farms along the coast
When he was only ten.
Then two years on along the Somme,
He fought with full grown men.
He survived two wars, saw droughts and
floods,
The Great Depression too,
He'd seen and done all sorts of things,
The tales he told were true.

The shame is that these blokes like Ted
Are all around the Nation,
Reading books and taking time
To store this information,
So they can pass along to us
Some knowledge of their past,
And we could have it all for free –
If we only thought to ask.



MyHeritage publishes France, Tables of Successions and Absences, 1890–1970

Email message received by the HQ Secretary on 19 September:

I'm excited to share that MyHeritage has just published an important new historical record collection: France, Tables of Successions and Absences, 1890–1970. This valuable collection offers an index of deceased or officially missing people from various French departments, spanning 80 years of history. It includes 26 million records, with high quality scanned images.

his collection is particularly important for researchers of French heritage because it provides a valuable alternative to national death records for this period, which have not yet been digitized or made available online. MyHeritage is currently the only service that offers digitized, online access to this collection.

This release is part of MyHeritage's ongoing effort to build a robust collection of French records. Following the acquisition of Filae, and more recently [MesAieux.com](https://www.mesaieux.com), MyHeritage now serves as one of the best resources for researching French-speaking ancestors.

Please spread the word to your friends and followers! Feel free to use the above graphic. You can read more about the collection on our [blog](#).

Bonne chance!

Daniel Horowitz, Genealogy Expert, MyHeritage Ltd., P.O.Box 50, 3 Ariel Sharon Blvd., Or Yehuda, Israel 6037606, Israel, +972-3-6280000

France, Tables of Successions and Absences, 1890-1970



This collection contains an index of deceased or officially missing people from a variety of departments in France, between the years 1890 and 1970. Records typically include the name of the individual, the date and place of death, age at the time of death and the name of the spouse. Some records may include the date and place of birth, the place of residence and the names of the parents.

If a person left an inheritance, the inheritance file reference is also indicated. The tables are organized by tax registration offices, which, within a department, cover territorial districts quite similar to French cantons. The deceased is registered in the office for the commune of residence and/or death. These archives, originally used for tax purposes, are used to control inheritance.

This collection was added following MyHeritage's acquisition of Filae.

State Library of Queensland: Moments in migration: exploring the immigrant experience in images (recent blog, extract below).

National Archives records are principally from 1946 when the then Department of Immigration had the task of resettling thousands of displaced persons located in camps throughout Europe. Their records are, therefore, more modern, photographic, reflect a more diverse migrant population, and look in greater detail at the lives of immigrants in their new country. They include:

- passenger lists
- naturalisation case files
- alien registration forms
- migrant selection documentation
- certificates of exemption from the dictation test (CEDTs), and
- alien investigation/internment files.



Examples of immigration documents from National Archives of Australia.

Certificate of Exemption from Dictation Test – Dempsey Hong: NAA Item ID 1593005

Impression of left hand – Chung Han See Poy: NAA Item ID 9090059

Incoming passenger card – Alexandra Daniloff: NAA Item ID 5132073

Form of Application for Registration for Alien Resident in Australia – Wilhelm Israel Hamburger: NAA Item ID 6550914

Certificate of Exemption from Dictation Test – Chung Han See Poy: NAA Item ID 9090059

National Archives of Australia: All aboard the circus train!

The circus travels by rail from Port Augusta to Kalgoorlie

Roll up, roll up! The circus is here! But with horses, elephants, big tops and more, how did the circus get to town?

Wirth Brothers' Circus was founded in 1878 and ceased operations in 1963. They operated in Australia but also travelled to such places as Noumea, Uruguay, New Zealand, and South Africa. On 1 November 1918, Wirths arranged a quote from the Commonwealth Railways department to transport the whole circus, including the menagerie, from Port Augusta in South Australia to Kalgoorlie in Western Australia. This was a journey of over 1,800 kilometres.

They specifically asked for 8-foot cattle trucks for the conveyance of the elephants. Usually, this passage was made by sea, taking up a great part of the accommodation of the vessel. Wirth's tried for 6 months to secure passage on a steamboat, but the scarcity of available capacity onboard left Wirth's no other option than to travel by rail.

The railways replied suggesting the following equipment:

- 3 or 4 cattle trucks for horses and elephants (with modifications including raising the roof by 1 foot for the elephants, trucks and iron rings placed on the floor at each end)
- 4 or 5 bogie flat trucks with low sides for animals in cages and for materials and wagons
- 1 bogie brake van or bulk mail van for luggage and baggage.

There were also to be about 40 first class and 50 second class passengers.



**Wirth Circus elephants being transported by rail, c1920.
State Library of South Australia, B52557.**

Caloundra Family History Research Inc

***Children of the Occupation, Japan's Untold Story* by Walter Hamilton**

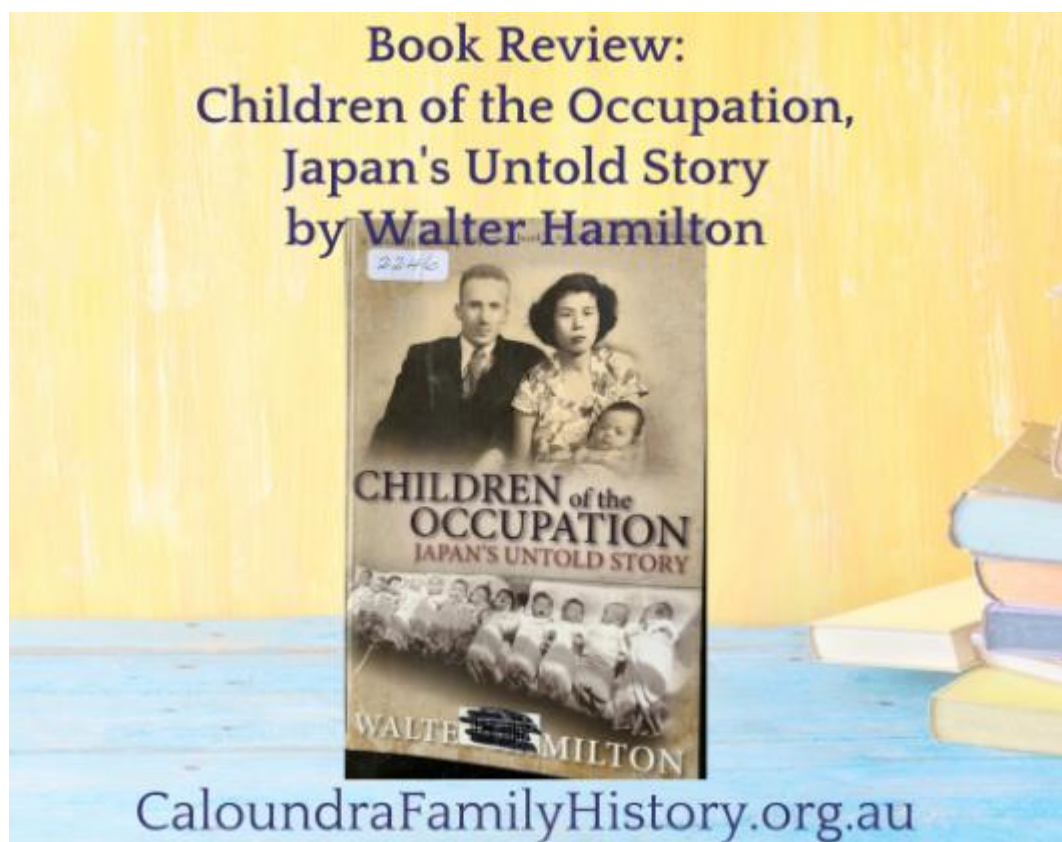
Book review in 2023 by Pattie Wilson, Caloundra Family History secretary, of a book in the society's collection. Book reviews such as this one are described as helping members discover books and other resources in the society's library and collection. Library resources are available for members to take home to read or reference in the rooms.

Browsing Caloundra Family History Library, I found this gem, Children of the Occupation: Japan's Untold Story by Walter Hamilton.

Stories about the Stolen Generation are well known, not so the stories of the Forgotten Generation. The orphans of Japan, fathered by Allied Servicemen from America and Australia, post-World War II.

This is a well-researched and moving story narrating an account of the lives of the kokusaiji (international child) a stateless child without a home in Japan or Australia. Each story highlights the personal struggle for survival and the heartbreaking results of thousands of children and their mothers from these unions.

This narrative I could not put down, especially when I found a photo/story of an Australian Soldier. He was a witness at my parent's 1953 wedding in Sydney. What a Gem!



Sandgate & District Historical Society and Museum

The society's December 2024 newsletter contained a link to the website of the Queensland Omnibus & Coach Society Inc (<https://www.qocs.org.au/>). The following is an edited extract from the QOCS website. Sandgate has more information on Sandgate's buses and currently has a small transport display.

Black & White Buses (Sandgate)

The McGrath family's Black & White Buses plied between the bayside suburb of Sandgate and Brisbane for a period of 27 years. Before they got started in Sandgate on 18 August 1947, Leo and wife Kit McGrath had seven years' experience running buses for the people of Armidale, in regional New South Wales. Originally an accountant by trade in a Brisbane real estate office, Leo McGrath took great interest in the advertisement of the small bus service in Armidale during the late 1930s. This thriving business operated by E M Sloman, was concentrated on passenger services during a time when very few people had their own means of transportation. The prospect of running buses in Armidale interested Leo so much that he decided to take the venture on and move with his wife and three young children to the town during 1940.

Purchase of Sandgate Bus Service by Leo McGrath

During a day out at the Sandgate beaches with his family, Leo witnessed a booming bus operation with people literally hanging out of the front door. Within the next day or two, he observed a listing by Ros Harrison (a friend of Leo's and his former employer at Town and Country Estates) for the sale of a bus business in the Northern Rivers region of New South Wales. Intrigued by the listing Leo rang up to discover that this advertisement was in fact a discrete listing for the very same business he had admired in Sandgate on the weekend. Wasting no time at all, Leo and Kit returned to the bus industry by purchasing the joint operations of the Black and White Buses and Blue and White Buses, from proprietor John (Jack) Truven Ford on 17 August 1947 for £20,000.

This acquisition involved a fleet of ten vehicles, two depots, and a lucrative passenger service between Brisbane and Sandgate, with extensions to nearby Brighton and Shorncliffe. Despite the common ownership, the two businesses operated as separate identities with their own depot and differing colour schemes reflecting their trading name. Buses painted black and white serviced Brighton to the north of Sandgate and were stored at a depot along Southerden Street at Sandgate, while buses painted blue and white serviced Shorncliffe to the east of Sandgate and were stored at a depot along Yundah Street at Shorncliffe.



Brisbane Living Heritage

This is a slightly edited version of a message received by History Queensland from the Community Engagement team at Brisbane Living Heritage.

'We just wanted to introduce ourselves as the Community Engagement team at Brisbane Living Heritage. We have been working hand-in-hand with Brisbane heritage organisations helping them with networking, promotion, training and professional development, for over a year now, and would love to see your organisation become part of and active in this wonderful network!

We are funded by Brisbane City Council specifically for your benefit, and with some big heritage events coming up in the next year or two, we are ramping up our work with organisations like yours to help with social media, marketing, and opportunities for membership growth and succession planning.

You may have met us at some local events recently, with the gathering of history groups in Brisbane to talk about the Centenary of the Brisbane City Council next year, or you may know us as the volunteers behind Paddington Then & Now, the history organisation based in Paddington. Some may even know us from the Under the Lino Project. Either way, know that we are passionate about heritage, and about helping others who feel the same way, but might be struggling with membership numbers, volunteers, digitisation or event marketing.

... We are here to support you, and don't want you to miss out on what's ahead, especially leading up to the 2032 Brisbane Olympics. Any questions, please reply to this e-mail. There are links to application forms for membership of BLH on our website:

<https://brisbanelivingheritage.org/members/> .'

Caylie Jeffery and Kerry Forsythe
Community Engagement and Marketing Managers

<https://brisbanelivingheritage.org/members/>

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