

# KIN TRACER



## Quarterly Journal of **GENEALOGY SUNSHINE COAST**

Sunshine Coast Historical & Genealogical Resource Centre  
Incorporating the Les Cass Reading Room and Community Learning Hub

**SUMMER EDITION**

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**Genealogy Sunshine Coast**  
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Gold Heart - \$20.00 – for 12 months Internet use

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\$2 per session for Gold Heart members No Daily fees for Platinum Membership

### Platinum Membership Includes Daily and Internet fees

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Platinum membership allows a financial member unlimited internet access for one year within the Resource Centre.

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## GRANT AND FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Genealogy Sunshine Coast would like to acknowledge the following funding assistance and support:



**Sunshine Coast Regional Council Community Partnership Funding** assists with basic running costs to enable us to offer additional facilities and services, having a broader community benefit.

### Be a Volunteer

Are you 55+ and not working? You can spend 15 hours a week volunteering at our Resource Centre. Morning tea available. BYO Lunch. Enquiries at Reception.

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Sunshine Coast Historical & Genealogical Resource Centre Incorporating the Les Cass Reading Room and Community Learning Hub acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the Elders past and present.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICE BEARERS – 2023/24**

#### Committee Members:

President: Christine Cutler  
Vice-President: Narelle Wright  
Secretary: Heather Lee  
Treasurer: Lynne Callaghan  
Member Representatives: Jan England  
Sandra Young  
Ali ORuaire

**Patron: Marty Hunt**

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Education Coordinator: Jan Bedwell  
Events and Publicity: Narelle Wright  
Grants Officer: Christine Cutler  
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Kin Tracer: Angela James  
Kitchen and Catering: Virginia Bassett  
Library Coordinator: Lee Goleby  
Membership Secretary: Sandra Young  
Policies Officer: Angela James  
Projects Coordinator: Wendy McMullin  
Publicity Coordinator: Jan England  
Research Coordinator: Christine Dyer

**GSC's Vision** – *To provide expertise and resources for our members, visitors and the community, to guide and record research into family history and in the process expand and preserve historical and cultural resources of local, national and global knowledge for future generations.*

**Mission Statement** – *Sunshine Coast Historical and Genealogical Resource Centre Inc is a Not-For-Profit Organisation run by volunteers. Our goal is to provide quality facilities for the community to research local history and genealogy, using Australian and world-wide resources. We offer innovative, interactive opportunities for life-long learning in a safe, supportive and social environment.*

At our extended premises in Petrie Park, Nambour, you can discover your family history from all parts of the world, research our local Sunshine Coast heritage and meet other people who are involved in the collection and preservation of genealogical and historical records on the Sunshine Coast. Many of our members can provide experienced help with research.

**Phone: 07 5329 2315**

## EDITORIAL

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Welcome to another edition of Kin Tracer!

This year has absolutely FLOWN by! I've enjoyed meeting new people and friendly faces at GSC. Wendy McMullin has been a huge help in getting this edition out to you. Thank-you Wendy!

We would love to see some more stories sent in for future publication. I know a couple of people have suggested ideas from a couple of sites however, they were under copywrite restrictions. I have reached out to the sites though have not yet had a response.

Years ago, Kin Tracer used to have a list of the areas/names people were searching. I would love re-introduce this feature in future editions. When we signed up to GSC, we were asked what area of research we were working on. This list was then published in Kin Tracer. Many hands make light work!

I love hearing about what our interest groups are up to. Are the interest groups able to send something in so everyone can have a taste of what they're up to please? What are the Writers writing about? Where in Ireland has the Irish group been focussing? Everyone seems to be jumping on board with the DNA research. Have you found it successful? Have you found anything you would like to share?

*Angela James.*

Remember to try genealogy. You can't get fired and you can't quit.

## WELCOME TO NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

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***We look forward to meeting you and helping you with your family research.***

**Don't forget to add your names of interest to our GSC Members Interest list.**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following people. If you see them around please make the time to say hi.

A spreadsheet is available to add names of families, places they lived, ships they arrived on and dates. Just ask and we will help you. We have interest lists from over 2000 members who have been part of our group, so perhaps you share an ancestor somewhere.

### **September**

Valerie Lawson

Kevin Boyd

Jill Chiverton

### **October**

Anne Gadene

Jenny O'Brien

Robert Bruce

Judy Purdon

### **November**

Marg Monaghan

Tina Sweeting

Leigh-Anne Lawrence

Helen Price-Dinning

Deb Halket

Ann Wilson-Wilde



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear fellow Family History enthusiasts,

Life has changed remarkably over the decades. In the 1980s, I remember using my home computer with its 3 1/4 floppy discs. Those were the days when we marveled at the mere idea of digital storage and the possibilities it opened up.

Fast forward to today, and we now boast 2 terabyte hard drives, a testament to the exponential growth in technology. At the Genealogical Society of the Sunshine Coast (GSC), we are proud to have amassed over 50 terabytes of files that chronicle the rich and vibrant history of our local Sunshine Coast. This extensive collection is a treasure trove of knowledge and a vital resource for all history enthusiasts and researchers.



Reflecting on the 1980s also brings a wave of nostalgia for the days when both my brain and body were more agile. The passage of time has brought incredible advancements and changes, yet it has also taught us the value of preserving our history and memories for future generations.

The last few months have highlighted the need to focus where we are going as an organisation and how we are going to achieve our goals. In a previous life, I came across the phrase "Work smarter, not harder." As an organisation, we faced rising costs and challenges to the way we do things technologically and practically, and I am sure we can rise to these challenges.

As we approach the end of 2024, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each member of our community for your unwavering support and dedication. Your efforts have been instrumental in helping GSC grow and thrive. Together, we continue to safeguard our heritage and ensure that the stories of the past remain accessible and relevant.

Let us embrace the future with the same enthusiasm and commitment that has brought us this far. Here's to many more years of discovery, learning, and preserving the legacy of the Sunshine Coast.

Warm regards,  
Christine Cutler.

### DON'T FORGET YOUR LIBRARY RESOURCE

This edition of Kin Tracer contains brief information on some towns and activities on the Sunshine Coast. So much more related information can be found on the shelves and databases of your Library at the GSC Resource Centre in Petrie Park, Nambour

See what fantastic resources we have to help with family and local history research. Over 15,000 items, books, microfiche, journals, maps, CD's, DVD's, newspaper clippings, computer indexes, etc.

Come and meet our helpful volunteer librarians and researchers and discover the wealth of local and family history information available for research or just for local interest.



## UPCOMING DATES

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..gather together with like minded people to share your discoveries, ideas and brick walls while learning from other's experiences and research tips..

1st Monday	Convicts & Early Australia	9.30am - 11 am
1st Tuesday	European	9.30am - 12 noon
2nd Tuesday	Irish	9.30am - 12 noon
3rd Monday	DNA discussion	1pm - 3pm
3rd Tuesday	Scottish	9.30am - 12 noon
	Roots Magic & Family Search	1pm - 3pm
4th Tuesday	Writers	9.30am - 12 noon

# INTEREST GROUPS

Starts Feb 2025 cost \$2/member or \$5/non-member  
GSC meeting room, Petrie Pk Rd, Nambour  
genealogysc@gmail.com ph: 07 53292315

Welcome to use our library resources + wi-fi & laptops



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

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### December

Saturday 14th - General Meeting followed by Xmas party.

### *GSC Closed for the Summer Holidays*

### January 2025

*No Interest Groups During January*

Friday 17th Working Bee – 9:30 Start. Bring your cleaning gear.

Monday 20th GSC opens for the new year. Members welcome back.

Monday 27th Australia Day holiday. We will be CLOSED

### February 2025

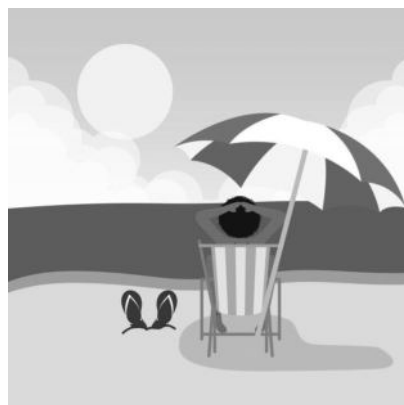
Saturday 15th General Meeting 9.30 Morning Tea, Meeting 10.00.

### March 2025

Saturday 15th General Meeting 9.30 Morning Tea, Meeting 10.00.

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Workshop TBA.

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Scanning Working Bee 9.30.



## **EARLY AUSTRALIA AND CONVICT INTEREST GROUP MAKES A NEW START**

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We have recently persuaded the lovely Sue Hanna to become the facilitator of our Aussie interest group. The November get together made a great start, with 7 people attending. Sue went back to the very beginning when Britain's gaols were overcrowded and the decision was made to start a new colony in New South Wales. Sue entertained us with a lively story she had written about her own first fleet ancestors. We looked at reliable sources for gaining information for our own trouble makers, and Jan provided a great selection of library books for us to use for research. Plenty of questions were raised and members of the group contributed their own personal information to the discussions.

Next month's meeting on Monday 2 December will look at the conditions of early settlement in the colony, and the addition of Norfolk Island as another penal colony. Lee Golbey will also share her research into her ancestors who travelled to Norfolk on the ill fated "Sirius". We hope to see you all there!

Alli ORuairc

## **HAPPENINGS IN NOVEMBER & DECEMBER IN YEARS GONE BY**

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From One Hundred Years of News from the Sunshine Coast in the 1900s

December 1921 – First sale of allotments in Coolumb township.

December 1946 – Major fire in Nambour business district.

December 1947 – Nambour is gazetted as a town.

December 1950 – Nambour's swimming pool officially opened.

November 1958 - the Near North Coast of the Real Estate Institute of Queensland chose the name "Sunshine Coast" for its branch.

Christmas Eve 1958 - The water supply for Nambour connected. In October the council had promised water connections to 600 homes in Nambour by December.

## **RESEARCH QUERIES**

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Research queries for visitors, non members and members who cannot attend our library can be carried out by our Research Officer. Details can be entered on the form in the GSC Research Queries folder which can be followed up by our Research Officer.

The fee is \$20 which includes at least 3 hours research and entry into a family history program, plus photocopy costs. There will be an extra cost for research in outside repositories. There will be consultation with the enquirer regarding extra costs.

Eftpos available at our Resource Centre, or;

Direct Credit to Genealogy Sunshine Coast BSB - 484799, Acc No - 026106385 (Suncorp). Please include your name as a reference.

You may also Email us at: [genealogysc@gmail.com](mailto:genealogysc@gmail.com).

Phone 07 5329 2315 – Please leave a message with your name clearly spelt out and a contact phone number if the centre is closed, or visit our Resource Centre in Petrie Park Road, Nambour.

## CAN YOU HELP?

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Whilst clearing up the estate of a dear friend, I came across a hymn book, inscribed:

*To **Miss Tainsh (Mrs E F Harvey)** on the occasion of her marriage. With all good wishes*

*From **Rev A & Mrs Campbell***

If a descendant would like to claim it, please contact [marlene.hoskin@gmail.com](mailto:marlene.hoskin@gmail.com)



The Hymnal was authorised for use in public worship by the The Church of Scotland and printed in 1910 which was the year that Elizabeth Tainsh was married to **Reverend Thomas Harvey**. After researching, I have been unable to come to a final conclusion as records seem scarce.

**Elizabeth Fotheringham Tainsh and Rev Thomas Harvey**

**Elizabeth Fotheringham Tainsh** arrived in Brisbane from Scotland in 1910 and a few days later married Reverend Thomas Harvey at the residence of **Miss Schaer**, Bowen Terrace, Brisbane.

**Reverend Thomas Harvey** was born at Newton, Hamilton, County Amagh, Northern Ireland in 1883 and came to Queensland on the SS 'Oraya' in 1906 as a 'home missionary' for the Presbyterian Church.

Thomas studied in Glasgow and took his theological course at Emmanuel College, Brisbane.

Thomas married Elizabeth Fotheringham Tainsh from Scotland. He was inducted into the ministry at Laidley in 1913 where he remained until 1916. He returned to the United Kingdom and became associated with the YMCA and then entered into war work subsequently becoming a chaplain for the AIF in 1919.. On his return to Australia, he served in Dalby and Mowbray Town. The Mowbraytown Church structure is located

at Mowbray Terrace, East Brisbane but is no longer used as a church.

Thomas enjoyed a successful career in the service of the Presbyterian Church in Queensland. This is documented in detail in online articles. He was elected as moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Queensland in 1932 before eventually retiring to Scotland with his wife.

Elizabeth and Thomas had two children. Records have been difficult to find but I believe them to be **James Meiklejohn Harvey** born 18 September 1819 in Queensland, a Chemist in Division 11 Dept Agriculture and Stock, Division of Plant Industry. He received a Knighthood in 1974 when Director General of Agriculture in Queensland and lived in Indooroopilly, Queensland. Their daughter was named **Janet Helen** and married **Ian McLean** in Queensland on 20 July 1940.

*Research from National Archives of Australia, Trove, Queensland Historical Index*

Marlene Hoskin



Angela James is looking for further research on the **Howlett** family, late of Bundaberg and Maryborough. We know there were two Howlett lineages in the region and they are not related. They are a secretive bunch!

While we're researching weird and wonderful family histories, if anyone has any idea of how the **Kaminski** and **Kaminsky** families are connected I would love to know! My understanding is they lived in Prussia. When Prussia ceased to exist, part of it became Germany (the southern Kaminski family) and the other part became Russia (the northern Kaminsky family). We are sure they are related though I have not yet worked out how.

Angela James.  
[jamesmenagerie@gmail.com](mailto:jamesmenagerie@gmail.com)



## A NEW HOME FOR FINNISH IMMIGRANTS EDVIN & MARIA ANDERSON

---

The year was 1902 and while Finland was facing increasing turmoil under Russian rule, a small Finnish population was making a new home on the Sunshine Coast.

For these hard-working migrants, the region offered all the freedoms of the promised land and dreams of a better future for their families.

Such was the case for **Edvin** and **Maria Anderson** and their five children. The pioneering family took up leased land at Image Flat, near Nambour, to farm sugar cane.

This is their triumphant story, as told by their late daughter **Hilma Weston** to **Davina Illing**.

“Father was born in 1864, the younger son of **Antti** and **Elisbet Vuolle**. It was at that time that all inheritance was made over to the eldest son of a family. Father had a job in the local copper mill, attending to the machinery part of the establishment.

The hours were long and the pay was hardly enough to support and educate a growing family. Naturally his thoughts began to wander to other fields.

By now a gent called **Matti Jurikka** came on the scene seeking anyone interested in migration to a far off country Australia. It was just what father was waiting for. Coming over on the ship in 1899... there were quite a lot of Finns. The ones with small families went up north. They were making the railway line up to north Queensland. Large families stayed in Brisbane where father worked in the meat works.

We left Brisbane and came by rail 56 miles to a country town called Nambour which at the time had one hotel, a chemist shop and grocery shop owned by **William Whalley**. There was also a butcher shop owned by **JT Lowe**, a newspaper printed (in those days) by **Thynne** and **McFadden**, one baker, **Higgins**, and naturally a sawmill where the bullockies bought all the logs, and a very small post office. Mrs. Ford had a little newsagency and sold a few drinks and some fruit.

The dentist, **Mr. Wilson** didn't have electricity.....only Kerosene. He had his drill pedalled by his foot like a sewing machine. I had a couple of teeth filled there.

There was a sugar mill too. That was the main industry.... We were sugar cane farmers. We arrived with all our belongings and went to live on a farm at Image Flat four miles west of Nambour. We had to bring our goods and chattels by road and we walked. There was only a bush track. No one had a house and we went to the farm Dad had bought a seven year lease on.

We lived in a bark hut that the bullockies had when they used to snig all their logs to the mill. Father had to clear a patch on our property – 50 acres of land, he had to fell the timber and cut it up into boards. All he had was an axe. We had no government support. They gave Dad an axe that was all the government support we got.

Dad had to build a house... all by himself with the tools he brought out from Finland. It withstood the big cyclone of 1902, after one of the biggest droughts we ever had in Australia.

Our house had a nice little kitchen. We had a dining room and a sort of drawing room ... mother and father's bedroom... a porch...and another bedroom with four beds. Father later built another little room (the Andersons had 11 children all up, two of whom died.

We grew bananas, sweet potatoes and always had a pig and a cow. Mum grew pineapples and she had some beautiful roses and red flowers”.

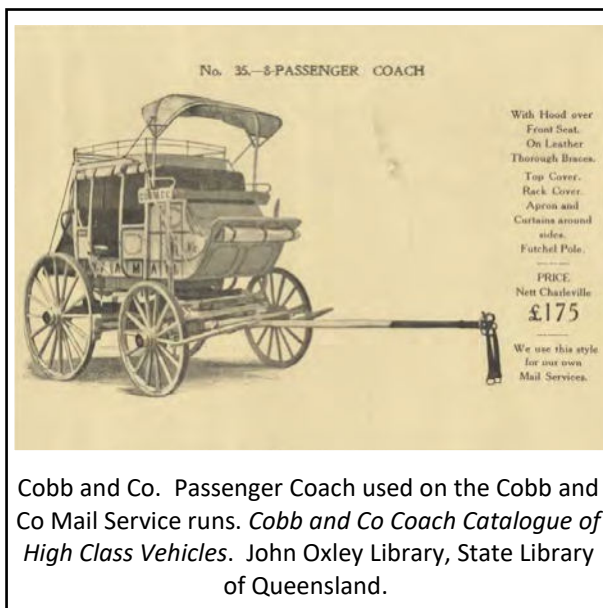
N.B. seven years after arriving at Image Flat, the Andersons finally settled on their own property at Bli Bli.

Source: One Hundred Years of News – the Sunshine Coast in 1902 p7

## COBB & Co

The discovery of gold in Australia in the 1850s brought with it an immediate need for faster and better forms of transport. Adams & Co sent **Freeman Cobb** and **George Mowton** to Melbourne in May 1853. Wells Fargo & Co staff arrived in Melbourne in June 1853. Cobb then partnered up with **John Murray Peck**, **James Swanton** and **John Lamber** to start a network of horse and coach runs, similar to those operated in the United States. They were originally called the American Telegraph Line of Coaches however, later in 1853, the name was changed to Cobb & Co.

Cobb & Co's first run was on Monday 30 January 1854, departing Melbourne for the Forest Creek diggings (now Castlemaine) and Bendigo. The network of routes quickly expanded to deal with increased demand within Victoria. Initially a passenger service, Cobb & Co's reputation for speed and reliable service soon saw it being used for mail delivery and gold escort as well, though they never actually managed to win any lucrative mail contracts.



Cobb & Co had built a reputation for speed, efficiency and reliability. Their imported 'Concord' stagecoaches were altered for Australian conditions. They used thick straps of leather to suspend the body of the vehicle, giving passengers a more comfortable ride. In May 1856, Cobb and Lamber sold the company and returned to the United States. Swanton continued coaching for a few more years while Peck stayed in Melbourne, eventually starting a stock and station agency. Cobb & Co was eventually picked up in May 1861 by **James Rutherford**, **Alexander William Robertson**, **John Wagner**, **Walter Russell Hall**, **William Franklin Whitney** and **Walter Bradley**. Robertson re-organised the services and managed to win the monopoly on major mail contracts.

The headquarters were moved from Victoria to Bathurst in 1862. Workshops were built at Hay and Bourke in New South Wales and Castlemaine in Victoria and the service was expanded to include Queensland in 1865. Cobb & Co manufactured their own vehicles in Queensland and opened a factory in Charleville. To improve travel time, horses were replaced at changing stations, 25 to 40 kilometres apart.

The first Queensland Cobb & Co coach ran from Brisbane to Ipswich on 1 January 1866. The railway line took passengers from Ipswich to Grandchester, and another Cobb & Co service took the passengers from Grandchester on up to Toowoomba.

The discovery of gold in Gympie in 1867 caused the inevitable rush to find fortunes. The road was unpassable in many places, going through Woodford and over the Stanley Range. Many drays laden with goods found themselves at the bottom of a gully. The long journey from Brisbane to Gympie took 3 days, with the coaches travelling at a speed equivalent to 15 km per hour over the length of the run, a total of 117 and a half miles.

In August 1868, **William Henry Walsh** wrote to the Ipswich and General Advertiser, complaining about plunging and sliding along, declaring it to be the worst road he had ever seen. The extreme, steeply pitched tracks were almost perpendicular as the coach whirled along. When they lost sight of the road, the coach was often taken at random through the forest to get to the next portion of road.

Many delegations and parliamentary debates were filled with the problem of what to do about the road. Money was found and a new route (also problematic in places) was established in 1868. The new road went via Caboolture, Glasshouse Mountains and Yandina. However, after taking the journey to Gympie the Queensland Manager of Cobb & Co **Mr Bennett** told the Government that there was no way he would travel on the road, saying that it was a little way off before the road would be ready.

**Mr Alder**, the Engineer for the Gympie Road reported in August of 1868 that there were still numerous creeks to make passable – two near Caboolture and portions of the road between Mr Lander (Landershute) and Mooloolah Creek. Mr Alder refers to the trees as mile markers – the route had been mapped out by Cobb and Co drivers simply marking the trees – a rough form of surveying!

This road challenged the builders of both the road and coaches, stretched the budget and the coach drivers. However, it was vital to making the growing regions accessible and attractive to miners and settlers alike.

By November 1868, the first service commenced, running twice a week from Brisbane to Gympie. For the coach companies, the key to economic viability was the Government mail contracts. Cobb & Co won the contracts because they were the fastest coaches on the road and had an extensive network. The speed of Cobb & Co was founded on several factors: lighter coaches, fast changing station procedures, quick refreshment stops and expert drivers who were fearless in their driving and expert in their knowledge of the road.

At the changing stations there was a team of horses controlled by a groom. Each groom looked after a small number of horses, and used standard fittings for each horse and coach, to maximise speed at the change-over. The coach driver sounded a bugle one mile out from the changing station so that all was ready.



Cobb and Co's stables near the Northumberland Hotel, Gympie, ca 1870. Gympie Regional Libraries.



Cobb's Camp Hotel at Woombye, Queensland, ca. 1872. John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Neg number 36278.

*"Men, women and children, horses and carriages, in front of Cobb's Camp Hotel at Woombye, Queensland, around 1872. The hotel is a lowset weatherboard building, with a shingled roof and front verandah with all the doors of the rooms opening onto it. It was built by Cobb and Co for the overnight accommodation of passengers. At first the name Middle Camp was used, but it quickly became known as Cobb's Camp. The builders were Mewett & Son of Caboolture. The first passengers stayed at the hotel on 12 November 1868, and a liquor licence was granted to the keeper, James Costa, in 1870. (Information taken from: J. Tainton, Cobb's Camp, Woombye, 1977.)"*

Changing stations needed to have sufficient room for stabling the horse teams as well as rooms and refreshments for grooms, drivers and passengers. In Gympie, the stables were adjacent to the Northumberland Hotel in Channon Street. Cobbs Camp at Woombye and Bankfoot House in the Glass House Mountains were key changing stations on the Brisbane to Gympie route. The Caboolture station was named "The Punt" as it was necessary for coach and horses to be loaded onto the punt or ferry to cross the river.



William and Mary Grigor and children at Bankfoot House, Glasshouse Mountains.  
John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Neg. number 196159.

**William** and **Mary Grigor** established a coaching station at Bankfoot House, in the Glasshouse Mountains. Some of the older buildings are still there today. Along with a more recent homestead, these buildings are still open to the public. The history of this house demonstrates the early pioneer life in the Sunshine Coast hinterland. Coaches and travellers were provided for at Bankfoot House, until the railway development on the Sunshine Coast in the 1890s took the mail contracts away and made the Cobb & Co coaches no longer viable.

Independent travellers were also able to stay at Bankfoot House, where a charge of one shilling was made for meals, one shilling for a bed and one shilling for a stable for the horses – three shillings in all – quite an expense when the working man's wage was as little as 1 pound per week. When the bugle was sounded, Mary Grigor served the meals for the Cobb and Co passengers and the grooms prepared the horses.

Not all of the journeys in those early years were successful. In January 1869, the coach was held up by two men who escaped with 25 pounds. One of the men, **Mr W. Bond** was captured and served 20 years in gaol for the crime. In February 1869, a coach carrying mail and newspapers was lost in the creek 9 miles south of the Maroochy River and the four horses were drowned. Fortunately, there were no passengers onboard. The mail and newspapers were retrieved from the creek but were reported to be "reduced to wet pulp."

Coach journeys were arduous and involved passengers alighting and walking where the terrain was difficult for the horses. On the way to Caboolture in 1889, a serious accident at Mooloolah was described in *The Queenslander* (27/04/1889).

"All of the passengers with the exception of **Mrs J.O.Bonney** of Belli Park and **Miss Tamlyn** of Mount Ubi, got out to walk up the Mooloolah Range. Just as the coach was nearing the top of the last pinch, the reins broke. The horses swerved off the road to the side of the hill. The driver fell clear though struck the brake bar on the way down, injuring his back. Miss Tamlyn escaped injury by jumping out of the coach as it went over. Mrs Bonny however, had a small child in her arms and both were almost buried in the mud and wreck of the coach. She sustained a severe injury to her foot, and was so terribly frightened that she remained unconscious for an hour. The infant also received a bruise however, both are now doing well."

There were some other local coaching companies, such as McCallum's Coaches that also ran on parts of the route between Brisbane and Gympie. The North Coast railway line was completed in 1891 and had changed the landscape forever for the coaching companies and for travellers. The last coaches on the Brisbane to Gympie route ran in the late 1890s and the last Cobb & Co Coach in the state ran in 1924 in Western Queensland.

Angela James.

#### References:

Today in History - January 30.  
State Library of Queensland - The Lights of Cobb & Co.  
Queensland Rail, Episode 19 - Cobb & Co and the Queensland Railways.  
Trove - Queensland Times.  
Trove - The Queenslander.

## COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF SETTLEMENT IN BILOELA

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Biloela was established in 1924 when the large pastoral stations of Prairie and Kroombit in the Banana Shire of the Callide Valley were split up to allow for closer settlement. Biloela is the largest town and headquarters of the Banana Shire. The Shire is renowned for its wide range of agricultural industries such as wheat, cotton, beef, pork and lucerne as well as the related coal industries at Moura and the Callide B and Callide C power stations. Callide Dam is situated nearby.

My father **Arthur England** purchased two blocks adjoining Kroombit Creek in 1926 where he built a log cabin which was to become my home until 1951 when our family moved to Brisbane. He started by growing cotton using Russian, Albanian, Italian and Greek cotton pickers. After a few years Arthur introduced some dairy cows to supplement his income. In 1931 his brother **Charlie** and his family moved to the property to help Arthur with his workload.

I have returned to Biloela many times over the years including going back for the 75 years celebrations with a cousin who had also lived on our property so I was very interested in taking part in the 100 year celebrations from 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

**Julie Watson** had offered to collate stories of early pioneers and had asked people to write up the stories of their families and I contributed the story about my father, which I had written many years previously. A Committee had arranged to reprint the earlier book *The Big Valley Story* for the Golden Jubilee in 1974.

On the Friday evening the Brigalow Arts Festival was held in the Banana Shire Regional Art Gallery with prizes for 7 categories of art. This was well attended with a beautiful spread of canapés prepared by the local Bowls Club which would have outdone any prepared by big organisations elsewhere. Others met up with friends in various venues around town including the Bowls Club and RSL Club.

Markets were held in Melton Park in the centre of town on Saturday morning with a big crowd gathering to see what was on offer. This turned out to be one of the best markets I have ever attended with all home-made items ranging from children's clothes, preserves, toys made by the Men's Shed and lots more. At 10am a time capsule was placed in the ground containing items relevant to the day.

Kariboe Street was closed off to traffic with all the shops decorated and open for business including a co-op of 45 retailers who all look after their own displays. It was beautifully set out and has proved a big bonus for residents of the town. The Anglican Church Hall also had displays done by various families with lots of photos and craft items from their homes including a huge photo album done by the **Rideout** families who were one of the earliest residents in the district.

There was also a bus tour to Greycliffe Homestead in town and Kilburnie homestead to inspect how homes were built way back then. These were slab homes with original items. In the evening a Black-Tie Ball was held in the Biloela Civic Centre which was a huge success.

Sunday morning started with a Poet's Breakfast down at Qld Heritage Park and then a Motorcade through town ending in Heritage Park. This was followed by a Light Horse display and a wood chopping event and at 11:30 **Alan Rideout** at age 95 cut the Birthday Cake.

Then the book produced especially for the Centenary was launched entitled "Some of the People and their Stories". This was the book of the early pioneers collated by Julie Watson for the unbelievable price of \$20. It is beautifully presented in an unusual format of a black cover showing many photos that could not be included in with the stories a copy of which is now in the GSC library.

The whole weekend was a credit to the organisers and brought many people who had retired away from the area back for the celebrations and gave them an opportunity to catch up with old friends.

Janice England.



## MY MEMORIES OF IRELAND - JUDI WICKS

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It is hard to believe that I first went to Northern Ireland in 1975, which means that is almost fifty years ago. We lived there for three years. Everything was so different from Australia and yet, family life is the same world over. These are a few of my memories from that era.

I was on a plane with my family flying into the Aldergrove Airport near Belfast in Northern Ireland; I can still remember the **Johnny Cash** song 'Forty Shades of Green' in my head because that is what I saw from the plane window. So many different shades of green from the leaves on trees and hedges to the open grass fields – it was magical to see! We moved into a small cottage on a farm in the countryside, a few miles out of the coastal township of Whitehead. Later, we moved into a house located in a row on the main road into the town centre.

There were many mornings where I found myself crying in frustration trying to light the fire in the lounge's fireplace! The fire was for our home's central heating as well as heating the water. To get the fire started, you needed some newspaper, coal and a fire stick (which could be purchased at the shop). Coal was stored outside in the coal bunker, with a shovel. Funnily enough, on one occasion I actually put the chimney on fire?

I shopped in the local SPAR store for our groceries, and went to the butcher for meat. Further down the road, I brought the fruit and veggies in another shop. The humble potato has to be eaten at each meal, so it was always on the shopping list! As you know, shopping has to be done, in all weathers including the snow in winter – I fell so many times in my snow shoes in the snow, I was constantly covered in bruises (don't laugh)!

I can recall my son (aged 4yrs) seeing snow for the first time, saying: 'Mummy, Mummy someone had thrown a bag of flour over the grass outside'. The fun we had playing in snow was fantastic, a new experience for us. And, the many layers of clothing we needed to wear before even stepping outside in the cold of winter!

I became involved in the local Church of Ireland and attended church and enjoyed being part of various church activities. Our son attended the local primary school that was located further down the road from our home. Our daughter was too young for school.

Communication between Australia and Ireland in the 1970s was expensive. To phone home, it cost around one pound (\$2) per minute and to send a written aerogramme was a few shillings (80 cents) which took 10-14 days to get to Oz.

Living in Northern Ireland in the 1970s, was a time of sectarian fighting known as 'the troubles' or conflict. The military had the right to search you at anytime and anyplace, to see if you were carrying anything dangerous. I was searched on a few occasions in Belfast. It was an experience I will never forget! Also, it was necessary to search under your car for bombs etc before you got in and drove away – just in case! Another memory, of being in a car when my friend was driving through a Protest March; where angry protestors were storming the local Police Station and we were in the thick of it. As we slowly drove through, they were trying to roll our car over with us in it. I was terrified. It has left me with an uncomfortable feeling (PDS?) when I am in a car now.

Who can forget, the time I was asked to go down to Cork city in the Irish Republic to visit family. It was about an 8-hour journey and I was told 'to be prepared for a long trip' but not by Oz standards. The variations of scenery along the way were both spectacular and amazing. Later, I even visited Blarney Castle where I 'kissed the Blarney Stone'. Images of the Virgin Mary standing in a cutting in the side of a rocky hill were everywhere on the main highways; a place where you'll stop and say a prayer. On another note, even the **Elvis Presley** song 'Crying in the Chapel' was banned – blasphemy. And yet, at the Whitehead's Lawn Bowls Club they held a 'wake' for a

week when Elvis passed away in August, 1977. It was an unbelievable presence!

I travelled around seeing many parts of the country and to hear the 'craic' or laughter which was fabulous in those little pubs. Sometimes, you could hear poetry being recited or a song or two being sung and on occasion someone was up doing traditional Irish dancing. Also, along a pub wall was a little library, where you could read or swap a book. Or, the times when someone wants to 'shout' you a glass of Guinness. They were special moments!

'Poteen' (whiskey made from potato), was drunk at most home gatherings, and the taste was an acquired one. I did sample it, but it was not for me. The people I met were friendly and so helpful. There is so much more I could say and describe about my time in Northern Ireland, but this is only a taste. I have been able to travel back there on a few occasions, especially in 2001 when my daughter married in a little 400-year old church near our family's home.

'Cead mile failte' or 'a hundred thousand welcomes'.

I had one of those whirlwind romances where I met an Irishman and fell in love, married and had two babies. Then in 1975, the doctors here were suggesting my then husband was homesick and that he should go home. In a matter of a few months, we were on a plane flying into the Aldergrove Airport near Belfast.

We moved into a small cottage on my husband family's farm on Islandmagee, a few miles out of the coastal township of Whitehead. I have many fond memories of playing with snow and the all important attempts to walk in snow without falling over. Also, my many efforts each morning to light the fire in the lounge's fireplace this in turn kept the cottage warm as well as heating the water. Later, we moved into a home located in a row of houses in Whitehead.

After many months, my husband was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, not homesickness as first thought. He had a social worker who supported him. Besides, going to the care centre one day each week, he would make items at home eg. cane borders weaved around trays and make some stools with nylon string. Whilst, I was doing ironing and cleaning for a family and home help for a two people living across the road from me, earning some extra cash.

As pensioners, we were entitled to a book of vouchers which I took to the Post Office each Monday to cash for our weekly pension. I shopped in the local SPAR store for our groceries, and went to the butcher for meat. The reality of potatoes, which is to be eaten each meal!

I became involved in the local Church of Ireland and attended church and was part of various church activities which I enjoyed. Our son attended the local primary state school which was located further down the road from our home. Our daughter was only 2 years of age. Funnily enough, I took my portable sewing machine over with me, and I was making outfits for the young girls around town – gypsy skirts etc.

My stay in Northern Ireland was only three years, but the memories are long-lasting. Also, in recent years of researching my family genealogy, I have discovered I have Irish connections in various parts of Ireland. If only I had known, I could have visited them back in the 70s.



Whitehead & Islandmagee  
From "Mid & East Antrim"

## THE LAST WORD ON SANTA

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Here are the some of the results of a Queensland Government Funded inquiry into the existence of Santa Claus.

1. No known species of reindeer can fly.
2. Excluding Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and Buddhists there are 378 million children under 18 in the world. Average children per household 3.5, number of homes 91.8 million.
3. Santa has 31 hrs. at Christmas to work with, due to the different time zones. This works out to 822.6 visits per second. Therefore in .001 seconds Santa has to park, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, place presents under the tree, eat the snacks, go back up the chimney and get back into the sleigh.

Assuming that each stop is calculated at 1.25 km per household, the total trip would be 120.8 million kilometers, not including pit stops etc. To cover this distance Santa's sleigh must be moving at 1040 km/second, roughly 3000 times the speed of sound. In comparison the Ulysses space probe moves at 43. 84 km/second and a reindeer at top speed 24 km/hour.

4. The payload of the sleigh is also interesting. Assuming that each child gets a present that weighs about 1 kg. the sleigh would be carrying 300,000 tonnes, not including Santa who is described as overweight. On land reindeer can pull no more than 150 kg. Even if 'flying reindeer' could pull 10 times the normal amount the job could not be done by 8 or even 9 reindeer. 214,000 would be needed thus increasing the payload of the sleigh to 325, 000 tones - four times the weight of the ocean liner Queen Elizabeth.

5. Now 325,000 tonnes travelling at 1040 km/second creates enormous air resistance. The reindeer would heat up.



There is always a little laxity allowed at Christmas time, for it is the time when gay spirits and rollicking laughter play a part, and young people will often have a little harmless flirtation under the mistletoe just for the fun of it

Kissing under the mistletoe is a very old custom, and no girl should feel indignant or hurt if one of her admirers shows a keen desire to salute her in the way that Cupid so strongly approves.

Girls should remember that because a man wishes to kiss her under the mistletoe *he does not necessarily mean to propose to her!*

Very often a man will purposely avoid kissing the girl to whom he is most attached in front of other people *because he considers his love too sacred for public display.*



In Greece, the Christmas period is begun with a 40 day fast known as short-lent.

Christmas dinner is a feast which includes suckling pig, spit roasted lamb or turkey, stuffed with a rich mixture of chestnuts, pine nuts, walnuts, rice, meat, onions, tomatoes and raisins.

It is traditional to leave food out for mischievous goblins known as Kallikantzeri, who are said to appear during the 12 days of Christmas.

Priests travel from house to house sprinkling holy water to get rid of bad spirits who may be hiding in the houses.

Very few presents are given, instead small gifts are donated to hospitals and orphanages.

## BEAT THIS...

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Whatever happened to the old art of chiselling gravestones? Our graveyards and crematoriums are sometimes the best source of information for genealogists, but modern headstones have taken the fun out of the search. Where we now read 'In Loving Memory of...' we used to see beautifully embellished memorials that indicated the character of the Dear Departed. Take these stones in Bath Abbey, England, for example:

SACRED  
TO A DEAR MEMORY of ANNE, only  
Daughter of GEORGE FINCH ESQ of  
Valentines in Efsex  
AN EXCELLENT PERSON  
well natur'd, difcreet, and virtuous  
moft affectionately beloved by her  
Relations & moft juftly efteemed by all  
that knew her.  
It pleafed God to visit her with a tedious &  
Sever illnefs, which (tho. In the flower of her age it  
Blefs'd with a plentiful Fortune) she bore with great  
Evennefs & Conftancy  
She prepared herself by Frequent & Fervent  
Devotion for her difsolution which fhe waited for  
With fuch pious Refignation as manifested her heart  
To be affected with Y POWER OF RELIGION and  
The well grounded hopes of a Blefsed  
ETERNITY  
Her life being the more defirable  
In that the firft real occafion  
Of Grief she gave her  
Sorrowful Mother was  
Her DEATH.

To the memory of  
The best and most exemplary of Men,  
THOMAS BLAKE Esqr.  
who was suddenly translated from Earth to Heaven  
on the night of the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 1826  
in the seventy-ninth year of his age.  
This small tribute of respect is erected by that Family  
with whom he lived on terms of the most intimate  
and affectionate frienship for nearly thirty years.

A soul prepared needs no delays  
The summons comes the Saint obeys  
Quick was the flight and short the road  
He closed his eyes and woke with God.

## FAMILY RESEARCH TIPS

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**Christine Dyer** suggested we share some tips and tricks for using the FamilySearch website. These suggestions can be found in the FamilySearch Magazine. [FamilySearch: 22 Tips to Find Your Ancestors \(for Free!\)](#)

### 1. Search for records.

At last count, FamilySearch is home to more than 4 billion historical record images from around the world. Just take a second to let that figure sink in: 4 BILLION IMAGES. Not just 4 billion estimated names in images, but 4 billion actual images, many with lots of names on each.

These aren't just a bunch of so-so records. They are high-quality genealogical documents, painstakingly gathered over the course of several decades from repositories around the world. That's worth breaking down into more detail.

Record images are going online at FamilySearch so quickly that many are not searchable by name yet. But about 7.5 billion names are searchable. [Follow these tips to search for your ancestors' names on FamilySearch.](#) Explore some FamilySearch record highlights we've talked about, such as [WWI records](#) and [these highlights from around the globe.](#)

### FamilySearch Family Tree search strategy

Adding relatives to FamilySearch tree can help you find their records, as FamilySearch automatically searches its records for matches to people in the tree. Click the Family Tree tab to start your tree and either manually enter the information, or use "FamilySearch-approved" genealogy software that can reconcile data between the family file on your computer and Family Tree. Those programs include [Ancestral Quest](#), [Legacy Family Tree](#), [RootsMagic](#) and [MacFamilyTree](#). To avoid duplicating people already in the tree, FamilySearch looks for a profile for each person you're adding.

### Records search strategy

Under the Search tab, click Records to bring up a search form for a person in indexed records. You can enter the first and last names and the date range and place for one or more life events, such as birth, marriage, death, residence (useful when looking for census records), death or "any," which could be, for example, an immigration or military enlistment year. Narrow your search with names of the person's parents, spouse or another person who might appear with him in records. You also can restrict your results to those from a certain country or of a certain type (such as census or military records).

On the search results page, look to the left for fields where you can adjust your search terms. Below that, you can use filters to narrow your search by collection (which lets you limit results to one or more databases), a birthplace in the record, a birth year in the record and more.

A camera icon in the far right column for a match indicates a digital image you can download to your computer and/or add to your tree; no camera icon means it's an index-only record. In a few collections, due to the wishes of record custodians, you must register with FamilySearch to access record images or use the website at a FamilySearch Center. Some collections, such as the 1901 census of England and Wales, link to a record image on a subscription site. You can view these with a subscription or by visiting a FamilySearch Center.

### 2. Set up notifications for family tree profiles.

As critics of FamilySearch will be quick to tell you, any user can edit your family tree on the site. While a powerful tool for collaboration, this functionality opens the door for questionable details



to be added to your hard-earned research.

To counter this, FamilySearch also allows you to receive notifications when someone adds or edits details to an individual's profile. Simply click the star next to Follow when viewing a profile, and the site will notify you when someone makes changes or adds records. With that, you can get in touch with other users and (hopefully) keep unsourced information from your tree.

Searching a specific record collection that covers a place and time your family lived can help you focus on the most relevant matches. On FamilySearch, this technique also lets you access images of records that aren't yet part of the site's searchable indexes.

#### 4. Investigate individual collections.

Because FamilySearch has so many records, you can easily miss important results if you only search on the site's main form. Instead, find individual collections that interest you and search them one by one. From [FamilySearch's search page](#), you can drill down to collections from a particular place. Alternatively, search for a collection by title or (again) view a [huge list of all FamilySearch's collections](#).

#### 5. Look for multiple kinds of records.

Censuses and vital records make up the bedrock of genealogy research, but they shouldn't be the only resources you look for. FamilySearch's database holds all kinds of genealogy records, from tax records to probates to passenger lists. From the main search form, you can filter by name of collection (which often includes record type). Also remember to browse for records collections by location, so you can see what FamilySearch has in your area.

#### 6. Find relatives in the FamilySearch Family Tree.

Over the past few years, FamilySearch has been inviting the world to contribute to what's become the biggest community-based family tree around. So far, over 5 million people have participated. Whether you [contribute](#) or not, you can still learn from this massive tree.

First, you'll need to understand the community-based tree model. Like [Geni](#) and [WikiTree](#), the FamilySearch Family Tree is a single, public tree. The idea is to promote full collaboration instead of populating the site with millions of individual trees that duplicate effort (but maintain control and privacy). There are also dedicated spots to collaborate and contribute personal memories.

There are drawbacks to this approach, such as when less-knowledgeable researchers change well-supported data. But there are powerful upsides, too. Not least, it's easy for anyone to [search the FamilySearch Tree](#) for specific ancestors to see what others have already discovered about them. In reality, there's some duplication, but far less than you'll find at sites with individual trees. All data about deceased individuals is public to anyone with a free FamilySearch guest account.

### Online Search Tracker

Collection Name \_\_\_\_\_

First & Middle Names      Surname

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Events

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Website \_\_\_\_\_

Keywords

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Relationships

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## FROM THE ARCHIVES - MR STAN POTTS

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As told by his son, **William Stanley Potts**.

Stan was the popular Officer in Charge of the Maroochydhore Ambulance Centre. Supported by a keen committee, he is carrying out all the traditions of the Q.A.T.B. and the recent annual report showed the wonderful work performed by the centre and its O.I.C..

**Stan Potts** was born at Woombye on August 16, 1907, and he is, therefore, the second youngest man we have interviewed as an Identity.

However, Stan has had a very varied career and in the course of numerous conversations with him we have found he knows a great deal concerning the Maroochy Shire. Stan is one of three children in his father's family. **George** is now living in Brisbane, while **Gertrude**, who is now Mrs. **P. G. Link**, a widow, is staying with her parents in Hill Street.

Our Identity attended the Woombye School and the Nambour Rural School. He then went to work as a striker for **Mr. Herb Donald**, a blacksmith in Nambour, but left and went to Harry Reed, who conducted a garage at Palmwoods. Stan stayed there as a mechanic for a number of years.

Stan later bought the boat "Viking" and started out on his own as a deep sea fisherman. He carried on fishing for 11 years and it was during that time that **Leu de Hauffin** was lost at sea. Leu was the proprietor of the Cool Corner Cafe and had gone out with a friend in his boat after telling his wife he would return that night. He had also stated he would come in to the Maroochy River, so there was no worry concerning him when he did not appear at Mooloolaba.

After five days Mrs. de Hauffin advised our Identity, who at once went out from Mooloolaba in his boat. He turned north on leaving the Mooloolah River and when some miles out to sea saw a black dot away to the south east. He decided to investigate, and the dot turned out to be Leu's boat which had lost its rudder.

About 1941 the American Air Force called our Identity up for mechanical work in connection with their aircraft. Stan had been hurt a couple of times while playing Rugby and had a cartilage removed from his knee. The Australian military authorities refused to accept him on account of that knee although he tried to enlist in quite a number of different capacities.

After nearly five years with the American Air Force, Stan was permitted to return to the fishing industry. He had been fishing for six months when **Edgar Wells**, who then conducted the Returned Soldiers' Garage in Nambour, asked him to go to the garage for two weeks as a mechanic. Stan told us with a laugh that two weeks turned into five years for he stayed with Edgar Wells until 1950, when he joined the Ambulance Centre at Nambour.

We have mentioned that Stan Potts was hurt at football. He played half-back and later full-back for the Nambour Wanderers and for a short time played for a Brisbane team. He was also a very keen cricketer.

Stan now told us about conditions at Maroochydhore and Cotton Tree as he knew them up to 50 years ago.

Where the Maroochydhore Ambulance Centre now stands in Sixth Avenue the site was a big swamp covered with rushes and weeds. A very narrow track wound its way through the ti-trees to Mooloolaba. (Editor's note: the ambulance station has moved from here too!)

On the site of the present Lifesavers' Clubhouse at Maroochydhore Main Beach, a hill, some 30 feet high, existed. It was covered with she-oaks and brush. The trees, we were told, extended years ago right across to Pincushion Headland. At that time the bar was on the northern side of the headland.

At this point we raised what is now a contentious question. Did the Maroochy River ever come in close to Seaspray Guest House? Stan told us that it came through a depression that can still be seen in the Cotton Tree camping reserve. That depression, which we know well, is about 600 yards from the front of Seaspray.

Stan told us the river then swung round and came back round the point of the Cotton Tree swimming pool and from there along the river esplanade was quite deep water.

There was no road existing in those years from Maroochydore round to Cotton Tree and to make the journey on foot meant having to walk up the Cornmeal Creek to the Lovers Bridge to make the crossing.

We told Stan there was quite a difference of opinion as to whether boats ever tied up to the Cotton Tree. He agreed that boats did not do so, but said that they did tie up at the Cotton Tree area. At that time ti-trees grew along the bank of the river at Cotton Tree and boats tied up to them. A lot of those trees were still growing there 20 years ago.

Swimming races were very popular in those earlier days and the favourite race was from the Cotton Tree to the Club Hotel, which was also the course taken by passenger ferry boats. The late **Percy Evans** owned the Favourite 1 and 2, "Vera" and "Alexandra". **Billy Coulson** had the mail run from Yandina to Cotton Tree and return and he used the "Irene" and "Siss", while **Tommy Tripcony** ran the "Anglia" as a passenger boat up and down the river.

Stan told us that when Tommy brought the Anglia to Maroochydore by sea from Brisbane, he was towing an unnamed boat behind him. Coming over the bar, he ran into difficulties and the second boat broke adrift. Tommy came into the river to secure assistance. He tied up inside the bar and then found the other boat had safely drifted in after him. He got such a surprise, Stan told us, that Tommy Tripcony named the second boat "Surprise", which was a well known boat on the river for many years. At that time motor boats were very common and every weekend would see a procession of boats chugging down the river.

Stan said he knew an aborigine named **Charlie Chilli** very well and on one occasion while standing on the beach north of the Maroochy River, Charlie pointed to Old Woman Island and said: "Look Old Woman." Stan told us that the image of a woman's face was plainly discernible worn into the rock by the action of water and weather. It is probable this is the most reliable of all the suggested sources of the name of the Old Woman Island. The face can still be picked out against the distant sky background.

We mentioned fishing to our Identity and he told us that years ago one could fill a 7 pound syrup tin with worms in a very short time. They sold them at sixpence a milk tin full and "no sand," added Stan.

Now to Alexandra Headland and the fact it was Stan Pott's great-grandfather who lived there with his wife. The house was built by **Pettigrew**. Old **John Potts** died there and was buried in the Buderim Cemetery.

We have previously reported that **Low** and **Grigor** conducted a store at that house but Stan Potts says they did not exactly run a store. When the boats came into the Mooloolah River, Low and Grigor met them, took delivery of the foodstuffs they had brought up and carried them to their house where the surrounding farmers came to take delivery of their orders. Low and Grigor ran some 500 head of cattle at the headland and John Potts also ran cattle over the headland area.

A shingle roofed shed stood on the river bank at Mooloolaba, almost directly in front of Charlie Clarke's present home. The boats off-loaded the provisions into the shed and bananas were stored there, waiting for the boats to come in.

We have always wanted to pin-point the spot where the Potts' house stood at Alexandra Headland, formerly known as Potts Point. Stan told us that as far as he can now recollect, it was behind the house now owned by **Mr. E. B. Fox**. That is up on the right hand bend of the road as it gets to the top of the hill going over into Mooloolaba.

To finish Stan Potts' story we tell that he was married to **Miss Grace Fitzgerald**, a daughter of **Darcy Fitzgerald** of Nambour, on August 15, 1938, at the Valley Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Potts was well known in Nambour, and she worked for the "Chronicle" for 11 years.

The couple have two children, **Judith**, who is with the Navy at Flinders Naval Depot, and **John**, who is a printing trade apprentice.

We were about to leave when Stan Potts recalled an amusing incident that happened when he was only about 10 years of age. With **George** and **Alex Cogill** he went out on the Maroochy River in a small boat. The three boys rigged up a big bag as a sail and a sou-easter carried them up the river to Bli Bli. They then managed to beach the boat while they took down their sail, and it was then a long hard row back.

They managed to get to the Cod Hole and then walked home. Stan told us there were some sore bottoms that night!

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## BOXING DAY PICNIC AT PALMWOODS 1906

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"A committee has been elected to carry out our annual picnic on Boxing Day, consisting of the following gentlemen:- **Messers D, Mowat**, chairman; **H. Barber**, secretary;- **P. Bendixen**, treasurer; committee **W, Cotterell, G. Fewtrell, Sen., F. Barber, F. Geritz, K. Reading** and **E. Stemp**. Funds are now being collected by subscription list and friends willing to help are requested to give same to secretary.

"These picnics have always been a success and we trust that this year will be no exception. Today, Tuesday, the school broke up for the summer holidays. It did not take the form of a picnic on account of the above, but the parents foregathered. Prizes were given to the children who obtained the highest marks. Mr Fewtrell provided buns, tea, biscuits and lollies and a pleasant day was spent by all.

"The principal prizes were as follows:-

"Highest aggregate marks, 5th.class, **Bertha Ede I, Ruby Dunning** 2; 3rd. class **Arthur Bendixen** 1, **Walter Shurvell** 2; 2nd class **Katie Cramb** and **Wm. McKenzie** equal 1. **Henry Bendixen** 2; 1st class **Lily Kimber** and **Ernest Bendixen** equal 1, **Bonny Dunning** 2; lower 1st. **Katie Humphries**.

"Spelling bee, 5th class, **B. Ede** 1. **R.Dunning** 2; 3rd class **Winnie Ede I, A. Bendixen** 2; 2nd class, **H. Bendixen I, K.Cramb** 2; 1st class **L. Kimber** 1. **R. Dunning** 2; Lower 1st. **K. Humphries**. The spelling prizes were presented by **Mrs Kimber** and the others by Mr. G. Fewtrell and **Miss Frawley**."

Source Nambour **Chronicle** 1906

## SOME ST VALENTINE'S DAY CUSTOMS AND LENDGENDS

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In Roman mythology, the day was regarded as belonging to the goddess Juno, wife of Jupiter, who became the guardian of women and marriage. Christianity, frowning upon these pagan customs, dedicated the day instead to Saint Valentine, the 14th of February being the date of his martyrdom in AD 269.

There is a legend that Valentine, in jail and waiting to be executed, was befriended by the daughter of his gaoler and, on the eve of his execution, he sent her a farewell note 'from your Valentine.'

The custom of sending Valentines, dates back many centuries. The earliest illustrated Valentine was in 1667 and towards the end of that century, printers began to make cards that had verses on them. Valentine cards, unsigned of course, were delivered by hand in those times.

According to ancient custom, a girl expected to be given a pair of gloves in time for Easter by the first young man she saw on St Valentine's Day.

But for young maidens not content with gloves and anxious to get a husband instead, there was another custom practised, but only by the brave! On St Valentine's Eve, a girl would go, alone, to the nearest churchyard at midnight, taking with her a handful of hempseed. There as the clock struck twelve, she would run around the church three times, throwing the hempseed and chanting the lines:

"Hempseed I sow,  
Hempseed I mow,  
He that will my true love be,  
Rake this hempseed after me."

Then, as she left the churchyard, she would look back over her shoulder and, with luck, see the man that she would marry in the coming year.

Another custom was on the eve of St Valentines Day, five bay leaves were obtained, four of which were pinned to the four corners of the pillow, the fifth in the middle; and then if she dreamt of her sweetheart, she would be married before the year was out. But to make sure, an egg was boiled hard and the yolk was taken out and filled with salt; when she went to bed it was eaten, shell and all, without speaking or drinking after it.

Another Custom was writing lover's names upon bits of paper and rolling them up in clay; after they were put in water, the first one that rose would be her Valentine.

A spring, 10 day fair was held at Faversham in Kent in early times down to the end of the 18th century and was known as St Valentine's Fair.

Dictionary of Faiths and Folklore— WC Hazlitt





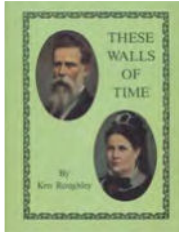
## NEW ACCESSIONS TO OUR LIBRARY

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The Genealogy Sunshine Coast library collection has a large section of local area resources. We are always adding resources from other parts of Australia and overseas. Quite a few military books have been donated by one of our members. Here are a few of the new accessions.

Check the website for the current catalogue

<https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/our-library>



### These Walls of Time : A Story of My Forebears

by Ken ROUGHLEY (1987)

A family history book based around the pedigree chart of the author. The main surnames include: Roughley, Hunt, Reynolds, Radley, Golledge, Bowden, Williams, Greer, Kentwell, Barber, Reynolds, Hunter, Morris, Parker, Davis, Morris and Willis, but there are many more. A sturdy book, well-researched, with many charts and photos to support the text. References are included at the end of each chapter. This compilation is worth studying to

assist when publishing your own family history.

137 p. : b&w photos, charts, maps, 4 appendices, bibliography, index

Accession No: 17540 ; Shelf location: FAM HIS Roughley

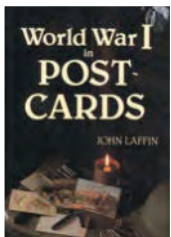
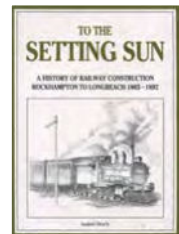
### To the Setting Sun : A History of Railway Construction Rockhampton to Longreach 1865-1892

by Isabel HOCH (1992)

The book follows the construction of sections of the line, from the Rockhampton-Westwood section, 1865-1867, through to the Barcardine-Longreach section, 1889-1892. The government decisions, individual achievements, and challenges faced, create an absorbing narrative. A useful list of opening dates for the 21 sections of the main line and 4 branch lines is near the back of the book.

60 p. : b&w photos, maps, index

Accession No: 17545 ; Shelf location: QLD 4700 HIS



### World War I in Post-cards

by John LAFFIN (1990)

A fascinating pictorial book, well-researched by the author, who was also a military historian. The postcards were from his own collection, built up over more than 30 years. The book looks at humorous, romantic, sentimental, religious, military and patriotic cards, including the embroidered "silks". While mainly British, there are also examples of French, American and German postcards from the period.

201 p. : b&w and col photos

Accession No: 17446; Shelf location: MIL WW1 HIS

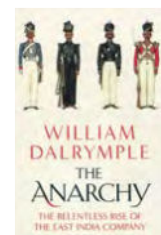
### The Anarchy : The relentless rise of the East India Company

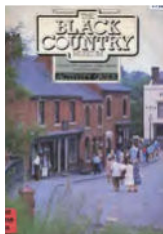
by William DALRYMPLE (2019)

This book looks at the impact of the East India Company on the political, economic, military, social and geographical history of India. There are many biographical details about the main people involved, particularly the British, French and Indian. The author examines the transformation of the East India Company from an international trading company to an aggressive colonial power, and the results of that transformation.

522 p. : b&w and col photos, glossary, endnotes, maps, biblio., index

Accession No: 17434; Shelf location: ASIA IND HIS





The Black Country Museum : Activity Book by Black Country Museum (ND)

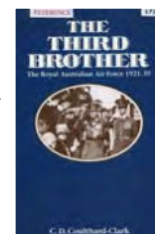
A book of information and activities to follow up from a visit to this museum in Dudley, near Birmingham, England. The museum helps recreate life during the Industrial Revolution, and this book can provide insights into that time, even without a visit. Some of the sections are aimed at children, but many adults will enjoy browsing through the book or studying sections in-depth. Learn about the Newcomen Engine, lime kilns, the rolling mill and chainmaking.

28 p. : b&w photos and ill.

Accession No: 17387 ; Shelf Location: ENG WOR HIS

The Third Brother : The Royal Australian Air Force 1921-39 by C. D. Coulthard-Clark (1991)

The creation of this book was commissioned to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Australian Air Force in 1991. It fills in the gap between the official histories of Australian air power in the First and Second World Wars. The work covers the establishment of the service, personalities, challenges and achievements. Valuable reading for anyone researching people in the air force during this period. 533 p. : b&w photos



Accession No: 17349; Shelf location: MIL HIS



Defending Fremantle Albany and Bunbury 1930 to 1945 MCKENZIE-SMITH, Graham (2009)

A detailed account of military activity in three areas of Western Australia leading up to and during WWII. Unit names throughout the text are in italics. The excellent maps were done by Anthony Occhiuto. Photos were acquired from various institutions. Information was obtained from the Australian War Memorial over a long period of time, especially from the official War Diaries. A list of the diaries for each Unit mentioned is included at the end of the

book. 37 p. : b&w photos, maps, glossary, references, index to Units

Accession No: 17596; Shelf Location WA HIS

Serving on the Home Front : Australian Women's Land Army by VAN DYK, Robyn (2012)

An informative booklet from the Australian War Memorial. It contains a short history of the Land Army, as well as sections on: the Tasmanian Land Army, the service record book, recruitment, the uniform, the badge, field officers, training, placement, the work, Land Army Gazettes, the changing roles of women, war's end, and a Land Army song. Also worth noting is a list of surviving former members of the Land Army who registered to receive the commemorative brooch produced by the Australian Government for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Australian Women's Land Army. 28 p. : b&w and col photos, lists, bibliography



Accession No: 17554; Shelf Location: MIL WW2 HIS



Under the Banyan Tree : In Search of the Lost History of Australia's North Coast by Graeme DOBSON (2021)

An absorbing and inspiring story. Graeme Dobson, a marine biologist became interested in a man-made offshore rock pond set 100 metres away from the shore at Waruwi settlement on Goulburn Island off Arnhem Land. He set about discovering the origin of the rock pool, and in the process, uncovered layers of history about the Yolgnu people and the traders that regularly visited various places in northern Australia before 1770. The author includes useful

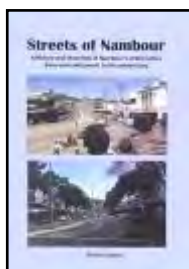
illustrations, maps and photographs. 310 p. : col photos; b&w illustrations, maps, endnotes, bibliography

Accession No: 17608; Shelf Location: NT 0822 HIS



## BOOKS FOR SALE – From Genealogy Sunshine Coast

An Order Form for GSC books is on the back page of KinTracer



### B45 STREET NAMES OF NAMBOUR – A History and Meaning of Nambour's street names from early settlement to the present day

**2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2017 - by Barbara Want.** Early streets of Nambour were officially named in 1896 although some of the names were in popular use before then. This book covers the localities of Burnside, Dulong, Highworth, Parklands, Rosemount, Coes Creek, Image Flat, Nambour, Perwillowen and Town Mountain, describing the origin and history of the street names. Many interesting stories, people and photos from early settlement to the present. **Price: \$15.00 per book. P&P extra.** [Also available from Nambour Museum]

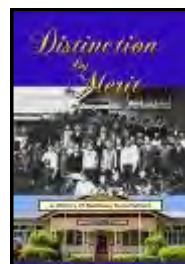
Nambour Museum]

<https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/streets-of-nambour>

### B43 DISTINCTION BY MERIT– A History of Nambour Rural School

From the first school at Parklands in 1879 to the School in Carroll Street, Nambour, the Rural School, the first in Queensland, has rich history. This book traces the development of the school until it became Nambour High School, with separate Infant and Primary schools. Many memories, photographs and index of names.

**Price: \$35.00 P&P extra.** <https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/distinction-by-merit-nambour-rural-school>

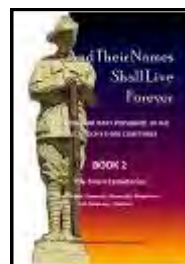


### B41 & B42: AND THEIR NAMES SHALL LIVE FOREVER.

This series of books provides information about servicemen and women laid to rest or memorialised in the cemeteries of old Maroochy Shire.

**BOOK 1: WOOMBIE - Remembering Military Personnel in the Woombye Cemetery.** <https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/and-their-names-shall-live-forever> **Price: \$15.00 P&P extra.**

**BOOK 2: THE SMALL CEMETERIES: Diddillibah, Eumundi, Gheerulla/ Kenilworth, Mapleton, Old Nambour, Yandina.** **Price: \$15.00 + P&P.**



**B23 PEOPLE OF MAROOCHY:** A collection of short stories compiled from Pioneer records held by Genealogy Sunshine Coast, newspaper records, public records on file and contributed data. Some stories are about people most Maroochy residents knew at least by name, if not personally. Others introduce us to people we have never known – people who worked behind the scenes to make the shire a liveable place. Fully indexed, with hundreds of names and photographs. 174 pages including indexes and sources. **Price: \$15.00 ea – P&P extra.**

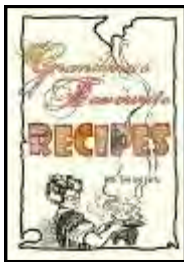
<https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/people-of-maroochy>

people-of-maroochy

**B24 PEOPLE OF THE SUNSHINE COAST:** Following on from GSC's previous publication, 'People of Maroochy', and covering a wide range of personalities, experiences and professions. While most of our residents were not famous in any way, their lives were important. A collection of stories about those who peopled the small communities of the Sunshine Coast – proof that in all things there is an interesting story. 142 pages including full index. **Price \$15.00 each – P&P extra.**

<https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/people-of-the-sunshine-coast>





**B31 GRANDMA'S FAVOURITE RECIPES:** A collection of old favourites to win the hearts of any family. Price: \$15.00 ea.

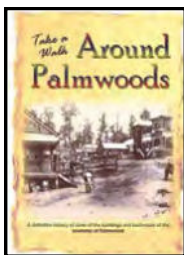
<https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/grandmas-favourite-recipes>

**THE GSC CEMETERY COLLECTION:** Still available. These eight publications include decipherable Monumental Inscriptions and Footnotes, official Council records and a description of each grave and its condition in each of the cemeteries of the old Maroochy Shire. Cemetery records current to February 1999. **Postage & packaging extra.**

Index to all Cemeteries	Price: \$5.00
Buderim Cemetery (Set of 2 books)	\$20.00
Buderim Crematorium & Memorial Gardens	\$15.00
Kulangoor Cemetery	\$8.00
Nambour Garden Cemetery (Set of 3 books)	\$20.00
Old Nambour	\$8.00
Small Cemeteries – Diddillibah, Gheerulla, Mapleton Yandina and Maroochy Shire strays	\$8.00
Woombye/Palmwoods	\$8.00

<https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/cemetery-records>

#### **B25 TAKE A WALK AROUND PALMWOODS \$25 + P&P.**



This still popular book covers the original buildings still in use in Palmwoods and some of their history, what they were originally used for and their use today.

Many have changed hands over the years but the buildings remain. By following the map in this book and actually walking around the town to see the buildings and chat with the owners some very interesting people and history can be found. Make use of the coffee shops and little restaurants for good meals and breaks. <https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/take-a-walk-around-palmwoods>

#### **PALMWOODS PAVEMENT BOOK \$30.00 + P&P.**

**Remembering the original Pavement Project and Nicklin Memorial Clock in Main Street Palmwoods.**

The pavement has been redesigned to become Piccabeen Green with the names transposed from the original terracotta tiles to the current boardwalk, making them a little harder to find.

Owing to the loss of the distinctive tiles, we at Genealogy Sunshine Coast have collected stories behind the names nominated by local residents and tried to give some history of the town and its people from the early days to 2020.

Some of the stories have been written by the families featured in the book. Others have been gleaned from newspaper stories and historical documents. All add to the colourful flavour of the town, making it a popular place to live and raise a family. Many Photos plus Index. <https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home/gsc-publications/palmwoods-pavement-project>





## **RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS**

### **QUEENSLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

46 Delaware Street, Chermside, Brisbane. Ph: 07 3355 3369

**Opening Hours:-** Monday (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays only) 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Tuesday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Wednesday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Thursday 10:00 am to 3:00pm  
Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Sunday 12:00 am to 4:00 pm

<http://www.qfhs.org.au>

*We also have two Queensland Family History Society membership cards available for use by our current members. These may be collected from our Resource Centre prior to your visit to Brisbane, but must be returned to Genealogy Sunshine Coast.*

**If you plan a visit to any of the following societies, take your current Genealogy Sunshine Coast Membership Card with you. You will be charged their daily fee, not the visitor's fee at these societies:**

### **CALOUNDRA FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH INC.**

Opening Hours: Thursdays (except the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) 9:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Third Thursday: 9:30 am to 12:00 noon, followed by the monthly meeting.

Saturday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm;

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in each month 9.30 am to 4.00 pm.

Sunshine Coast Turf Club, 170 Pierce Avenue, Caloundra. Ph: 0450 297 939 <http://www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au> Email:[hello@caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au](mailto:hello@caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au)

### **LANDSBOROUGH & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

4 Maleny Street, Landsborough. Ph: 5494 1755

Opening Hours: Wednesday to Sunday, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

<http://www.landsboroughmuseum.org.au>

### **GYMPIE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

1 Chapple Street, Gympie. Ph: 54828211

Library Hours: Wed. 9:30 am to 2:00 pm; Friday 9:30 am to 12:00 pm; Saturday 1:00 to 4:00 pm

<http://www.gympiefhs.egympie.com.au>

### **COOROY-NOOSA GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL RESEARCH GROUP**

17 Emerald Street, Cooroy. Ph: 3129 0356

Opening Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

<http://www.genealogy-noosa.org.au>



### **ORDER TO PURCHASE ANY OF OUR BOOKS**

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PO Box 1051, Nambour Qld 4560**

**Or Direct Credit** to Genealogy Sunshine Coast, BSB 484 799, Acc. No. 026106385 - Suncorp.  
Please include your name as a reference.

You may also Email us at: [genealogysc@gmail.com](mailto:genealogysc@gmail.com).

Phone 07 5329 2315 – Please leave a message with your name clearly spelt out and a contact phone number if the centre is closed, or visit our Resource Centre in Petrie Park Road, Nambour.

**Website:** <https://sites.google.com/site/genealogysunshinecoastinc/Home>



## SEE WHAT YOU'RE MISSING OUT ON...

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### September

After the General Meeting, we had a discussion about flowers. We often remark on flowers, how stunning they are, their scent etc. Listening to each person talk about flowers made me realise there is also often a very personal connection. We all have our favourites however, some just bring those special memories. We heard about special flowers which have moved from place to place since 1959, pieces being passed on to newly weds. We also heard about entire farms being redeveloped into parks, dedicated to a particular type of flower. Plants which flowered on the birthdays of loved ones and brings back the joyful memories of those long gone.

### October

Sometimes a cause of death seems almost inevitable. At other times a cause of death seems ridiculously unlikely. Lee Goleby brought along an example of each. Her great-great grandfather died in Suffolk in 1857 of "Concussion of the brain, caused by the deceased's accidentally falling from his cart on the public road whilst affected by drink." The newspaper report of the inquest described the hours the man had spent drinking in the pub, how many times he had fallen off the cart, and who had helped him at different stages of his journey home. All help was in vain – he did arrive home, but with fatal head injuries, and in the back of someone else's tumbril.

In contrast was the cause of death of a man at Nerang Creek in 1878. He was sitting, reading a book at the table in his hut during a storm, and was struck by lightning. (The hut was open at both ends, with a piece of bagging put up at one end.)

### November

This meeting we shared some special memories of baby items handed down through the family, particularly christening dresses. Wendy told a funny story about one of her relatives filling out the paperwork incorrectly! We heard about families where the names or dates had been changed on the birth certificates or marriages had become family legend, only to find there really hadn't been a marriage after all!

This all got me thinking about the things we do today. I have to be honest and say I haven't kept my children's baby books. Looking back, it might have been nice for them however, would they value it as much as I had? Is this why we don't have family heirlooms as much today?