



We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Sibelco Australia in the production of our Newsletter.

GETTING EQUAL

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SUCCESSFUL ABORIGINAL WAGES CASE



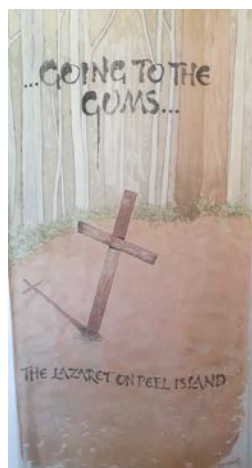
Image: Dunwich Cricket Team – Back row, l-r: Archie Newfong, Sid Campbell, Jim Iselin, Charlie Campbell, Barney Delaney, Jim Newfong, Harold Iselin. Front row l-r: Milton Costelloe, Toby Campbell, Collie Enoch, Bill Martin, Percy King. SLQ 593370

On Friday 30 July 2021, the North Stradbroke Island Museum on Minjerribah will launch 'Getting Equal' an exhibition that shares the story of the 'Aboriginal Gang' of the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum and their fight for equal wages. In 1944, after a 25 year campaign, Aboriginal workers at the Asylum gained equal wages almost 20 years before anywhere else in Australia. The Asylum closed shortly after and the story of the 'Aboriginal Gang' will now be told, 77 years later. The exhibition Getting equal will be the centrepiece of NSIMM's activities in 2021 to mark the 75th anniversary of the closure of the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum.

The exhibition will have a multi-media part including interviews with today's family members of those who struggled for fairness in the 1920-1940s. It will also document the work done by Aboriginal people, how and where they and their families lived. This includes telling some of the stories from the One Mile settlement and the relations between Aboriginal people and the Asylum Superintendent who was the face of the State Government on the Island and served as the local 'Protector of Aborigines'.

Going to the Gums Exhibition

Come and visit and check out our latest exhibition. Going To the Gums tells the story of the lazaret on Jercroobai / Peel Island. This exhibition is on loan from QPWS at Fort Lytton and the Redland Museum. It includes photographs, narrative and artefacts from the lazaret period. In 1907 a purpose built, multi racial lazaret was proclaimed. Over the next 52 years about 500 sufferers of leprosy were there with more than 200 deaths on the island.



Going to the Gums
book available in the
museum shop for
\$20.00



Ward 13 Heritage Listing

NSIMM has nominated Ward 13 to be added to the Queensland Heritage Register. Ward 13 is the only remaining ward in its original location from the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum. This is now 8 Mallon Street.

On 6 April 2021 the delegate for the Chief Executive of the Department of Environment and Science recommended to the Heritage Council that Ward 13, Dunwich Benevolent Asylum (former) be entered in the Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place. We now await the decision by the Queensland Heritage Council whether it is listed or not.

The full application which includes history, description and our reasons why it should be listed are publicly available at https://www.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0030/149394/650265-application.pdf

Ward 13 is a significant part of the State's heritage. Built in the 1890s, it marks the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum which from 1865–1946 was the sole institution in Queensland providing care for the poor and indigent of the colony/state. It had around 21,000 inmates over this period. At peak, it held 1,200 women and men inmates.

The place has very strong association for descendants of inmates; many of whom are buried at Goompi/Dunwich. As well as housing the poor and needy, the Asylum was also the first public institution for providing cures for inebriates and, for a short-time, a lazarette for people with Hansen's Disease.

There is a strong association with returned soldiers from WWI, many of whom suffered from shell shock/post-traumatic stress, who dominated admissions to the Asylum from 1918 to 1925.

Ward 13 also exemplifies the extremely strong relationship between the Aboriginal people of Minjerribah and the Asylum. Aboriginal people provided a major part of the the labour for the Asylum and it was the site of substantial industrial and political struggle with Aboriginal people in 1944 winning award wages equal to non-Aboriginal workers. This was the first time this is known to have occurred in Australia.



Image: Ward 13 NSIMM



Image: Dunwich Asylum Wards, ward 13 on right – SLQ

Friends of the Museum

Become a friend of the North Stradbroke Island Museum on Minjerribah today. Donate \$500 or more, and receive life membership, invitation to all Museum Events and functions and acknowledgement in the Museum. All donations to the museum are tax deductible. You could also consider a bequest to the Museum. Please contact us for information.

Museum Shop

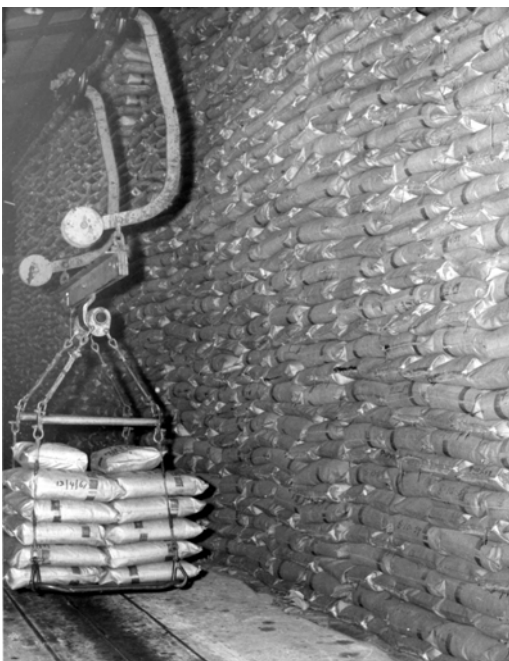
Our Museum Shop is up and running and ready to welcome you in. Wander through time as you delve into the pages of our local history books, come eye to eye with our local artists, and be carried away by poets, orators and storytellers. Dig under the sand and read about our island layers, or look up the pages on our unique flora and fauna. Sink into underwater caves, and explore local shipwrecks, then float away with some fishing history. Get personal with our beloved local characters and peek into their biographies, Be inspired, feel empowered, learn and understand First Nation views through our collection. Engage the kids and feed their imagination with pictures and stories picked for them.

Come and browse our selection at the Museum Shop in Dunwich or visit our online shop at <https://stradbroke-museum.com.au/shop/>

You can also buy our books at the museum stall at the Point Lookout markets, by emailing info@stradbroke-museum.com.au or call us with your order on 07 3409 9699

Contemporary Collecting

The Museum has an active program of contemporary collecting. This year one of our focus's is on the rapidly changing face of Goompi / Dunwich with the removal of mining infrastructure from our landscape. One structure of interest is the mineral sand tunnel now revealed with the deconstruction of the shed and store. If anyone has any memories or photographs that they would like to share, please contact us. We can scan and return the photographs and record an oral history to capture your memories.



Staff News

Tegan Burns has joined the Museum team as the new Administration Manager. She is a Quandamooka woman who grew up on the island and is thoroughly enjoying her new role.



We say farewell to Heather Shilling and thank her for her time and wonderful work while she was with us. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.



We also welcome Siska Meo as the new cleaner replacing Heather. We are very grateful to have her join the team and extend a very warm welcome.



Volunteers

The Museum volunteers came together for the first time this year in February. Over morning tea Stuart our president welcomed everyone and outlined the upcoming exhibitions/events that the Museum is involved in this year. Tracy and Karen welcomed new faces and gave updates and answered questions on everything volunteering. We are hopeful of a busy year ahead at the Museum and are starting to get bookings for both school and group tours and thus we will be counting on volunteers for front counter, other general duties and perhaps help with the exhibitions. Our next volunteer training day is scheduled for Wednesday 21st April with a 9.30am start. Topic to be advised and anyone interested in volunteering are encouraged to attend and will be most welcome. It is a good chance to have a cuppa and meet others in the volunteering team and let us know your skills and interests.

Karen and Tracy

Visit to UQ Anthropology Museum & Art Museum

On Thursday the 25th of March, the museum chartered the Blue Bus to visit two exhibitions at the University of Queensland.

This fabulous visit was organised by Mandana Mapar from the UQ Anthropology Museum. We first went to the Anthropology Museum to see artworks and artefacts tracing the history of Queensland Aboriginal Creations, the store and its legacy. We received a guided tour from Mandana.

<https://anthropologymuseum.uq.edu.au/exhibitions/queensland-aboriginal-creations-agency-and-legacy>



Image: Geoff Moore, Mandana Mapar, Tracey Ryan, Elisabeth Gondwe, Tegan Burns, Stephanie Parkin & Michael Aird at the UQ Anthropology Museum, 25/3/21. Photo by Jimena Ramirez Gonzalez (Di-1169.1)



Following lunch we went to the UQ Art Museum to see Occurrent Affair by ProppaNOW. We received a guided tour of the exhibition by Senior Curator Peta Rake. <https://art-museum.uq.edu.au/whats/future-exhibitions/occurrent-affair-proppanow>

We plan to have a lot more visits to other institutions in the future.

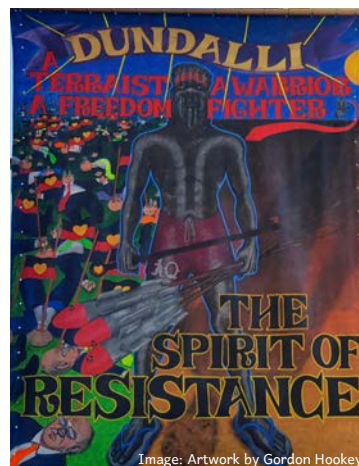


Image: Artwork by Gordon Hookey



Image: Artwork by Megan Cope – Quandamooka Sovereign Owners: Country Condition Report

Easter Raffle Winners



The winners of the museum Easter raffle are:

First Prize: Tamara Unternahrer

Second Prize: Caroline Hatcher

Third Prize: Sherry Costello

Fourth Prize: Dick Coomber

Thank you to all who bought tickets.



Redland City Council is proud to provide funding for the North Stradbroke Island Museum on Minjerribah as part of the Community Grants Program to assist the Redlands Community.



North Stradbroke Island
MUSEUM
on Minjerribah

