



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

## GETTING EQUAL AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SUCCESSFUL ABORIGINAL WAGES CASE

Museum staff and volunteers have been busy preparing for our upcoming 'Getting Equal' exhibition. We have been overwhelmed with the generosity of our community in coming forward to share their stories, photographs, documents and objects and would like to give our heartfelt thanks to all those that have participated and shared with us. We have had a great time filming and capturing stories and will continue preparing content ready for the Exhibition opening on Friday 30 July 2021.



Image: Exhibition filming, NSIMM



Image: Exhibition filming, NSIMM

### Goompi Events

- Exhibition Opening  
Friday 30 July 5pm
- Cultural & Physical Imprint of  
the Asylum on Goompi  
Saturday 18 September 11am
- Getting Equal in 2022  
January/February 2022  
date and time TBC

### Mainland Events

- First Nations workers' struggles for  
fairness - half-day workshop, 16  
October at Trades & Labour Council  
Building, South Brisbane; jointly with  
Brisbane Labour History Association
- The Dunwich Asylum and other  
Queensland Public Institutions of  
the C19 & C20th - joint function with  
Royal Queensland Historical Society  
Date and time TBC

We are pleased to be working with filmmaker Angie Simms from Stradbroke Island Photography who is helping us capture video footage and make films for the exhibiton. Our graphic designer is Daniel Bunce. Employing both artists were made possible by a RADF grant. Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is a Queensland Government and Local Government partnership to support local arts and culture.



Image: Exhibition filming, NSIMM

# Queensland Heritage Council Visit



Image: Ward 13, QHC & community visit, NSIMM

Following the State Heritage Listing of former Dunwich Benevolent Asylum Ward 13, <https://tinyurl.com/6a2mabdm> on the 2nd of June 2021, members from the Queensland Heritage Council and the Heritage Branch of Department of Environment and Science accepted our invitation to visit Dunwich to meet with Quandamooka community Elders and community members.



Image: Aunty Rose Borey & Ann-Marie Allan from QLD Heritage Council, NSIMM

## Reconciliation Week - More than a word

Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021, More than a word. Reconciliation takes action, urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action. The museum celebrated with a morning tea, yarning circle and a conversation about truth telling.

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures.

2021's theme urges us all to take action for reconciliation. Check out 20 Actions you can take for Reconciliation in 2021. Reconciliation is more than raising awareness and knowledge. As a nation, and importantly, as people, we need to move from 'safe' to 'brave' in order to advance reconciliation. #NRW2021 #MoreThanAWord



Image: Reconciliation week event, NSIMM



# Remembering Alan Gunn and Tony Durbidge

It is with sadness that we mark the passing of two museum members Alan Gunn and Tony Durbidge.

**Alan** Gunn's family moved to One Mile in the late 1920s, as the health of his father, Arthur, had deteriorated following his return from WWI.



Image: Alan Gunn 2015, Elisabeth Gondwe

"There seemed to be a hut there, not far from Ruska's place. And it kind of had a lean-to on it. He must've rented it or something, and ultimately he bought it because after he's been over there for a month, we were over there for over four years. And he just about totally recovered, you know? Like it was tremendously interesting when I look back on it as an adult. And umm, we lived at One Mile, and I can remember them putting up an err, a galvanised portion, a big galvanised portion, on to this house or what was the house, it had a sort of tent structure and, it was divided up into about three sections. There was a kitchen and there was a kind of a livingroom." (Alan Gunn 20 July 2015 Transcript of interview) Alan was a life member of the museum and had a long association with Stradbroke Island.

**Tony** was born in Brisbane on 12 March 1929 and lived in Fish Lane, South Brisbane. As if predetermined by his address, Tony left school at ten to be a fisherman with his step-father Bob Durbidge, on the ketch *Aroetta*, working along the reefs off Townsville.

In 1940, with WWII fully in play, the *Aroetta* was commissioned for the war effort and Bob, left with one of *Aroetta's* dinghies, decided to take Tony, his brother John and their mother Thelma, to North Stradbroke Island from where they would provide fish to the Brisbane market throughout the remaining years of the war.

They set up camp in the southern corner of Cylinder Beach and this was to be their home, under the beam of the Point Lookout lighthouse, for the next seven years. Tony fished and helped maintain the lighthouse, drove and repaired the Durbidge buses, undertook council roadworks, established the local ice works and was first captain of the newly formed Point Lookout Life Savers Club.

Tony married Ellanor Rahnsleben (Ellie) in 1951 at Samarinda Guest House and later they had two children, Chris and Jane. In the years that followed Tony built and managed the Point Lookout Hotel and later, other properties. He lived in the same modest fibro home on 'Durbo Hill' for 70 years, was devoted to his family and cared for Ellie in their home during her final years. He passed away in his home on 19 May 2021.

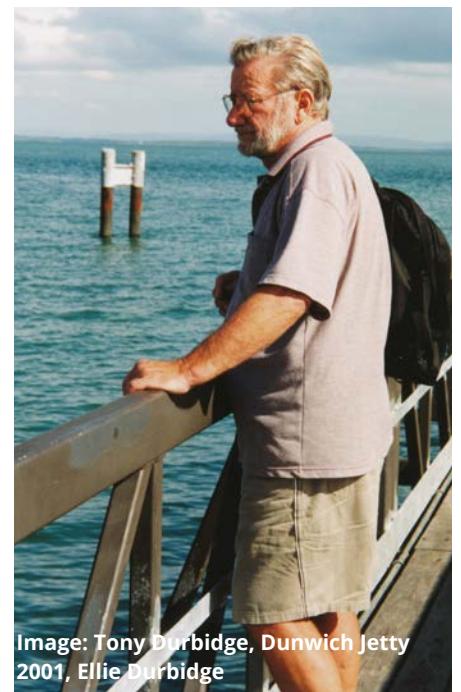


Image: Tony Durbidge, Dunwich Jetty 2001, Ellie Durbidge

# Volunteers

Our last monthly volunteers' get-together was Friday 28 May. About eight people braved the freezing weather (freezing for Queensland) and after morning tea we had a look at some of the displays in the Museum for a critique. One in particular dated from the 1990s and reflected Museum display practices of that time. We talked about how to update the labels by adding stories, which led to an interesting discussion about the stories we tell in the rest of the Museum.

We then got very practical and installed sticky pest traps around the Museum so we can monitor pest activity. This is a very important step in caring for our objects and documents.

We will be continuing with these monthly volunteer working bees for the rest of the year, covid allowing, so keep an eye out. If anyone isn't already receiving emails, please contact [volunteer@stradbrokemuseum.com.au](mailto:volunteer@stradbrokemuseum.com.au).

Thank you everyone for the valuable role our volunteers play.



Image: Volunteer and committee member Karen Rylance at work in the museum, NSIMM

## Redland Foundation Grant - Jeffery and Geraldine Underhill Community Grants Program

The museum was recently able to purchase two quality computers that will satisfactorily work with our digital image library, and a laptop to assist volunteers working with the collection in different areas within the Museum space.

This was made possible by a Redland Foundation's Jeffery and Geraldine Underhill Community Grant.



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.

