

North Stradbroke Island
MUSEUM
on Minjerribah



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NEWSLETTER

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A Burning Issue: the Social History of Fire

As part of the 2018 Quandamooka Festival, the Museum is curating an exhibition about the social history of fire (jalu).

We are gathering items from the Museum's collection and stories from our local community about the use of fire for land management, signalling and communication, cooking and washing, destruction and warmth.

The exhibition will open on June 8, and run until the close of the Festival on August 31.

“ We never camped in tents. We just put up a wind break of melaleucas and stuff like that just to break the wind and we'd all sleep in behind that in out of the wind and have our campfire in front of us, you know. It was a good life - cause we were all pretty touchy. Someone would tell a ghost story and we'd even huddle together closer.”

(Cliff Campbell 29 March 2003 interviewed by Elisabeth Gondwe, NSI Oral History Project)



Allan Rogers - Dunwich postmaster and volunteer fireman - delivers Santa to the Consolidated Rutile children's Christmas Party. Courtesy Redland Times c. December 1984, from the NSIMM collection.

“ (On the conical) Pynnn, Pynnn Pa, meaning little hill, the (Aboriginal) fishermen of the Bay would sit - on its summit, and use fire or smoke as a signal to their comrades in the distance that fish were at certain places about. From its top could also be seen all the fringed foreshore of the island towards Dunwich, and, at low water, the banks along and upon which the traveller walked or rode on his journeyings to and from Amity.”

Thomas Welsby, Memories of Amity. VII. The Brisbane Courier, 18 June 1921 p16

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Vale Aunty Margaret Iselin

The Museum acknowledges the passing of Aunty Margaret Iselin. Aunty Margaret was a valued Committee member and a long-time supporter of the Museum. Condolences to the Iselin family.

The Museum acknowledges the Quandamooka people as the owners and custodians of the lands and waters on which the Museum operates. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Friends' Interest in Conservation

The Museum recently used some of the interest from the *Friends of the Museum* funds to purchase some much-needed archival supplies.

We bought 1,000 artefact tags, and volunteers are steadily and methodically going through each artefact in our collection, and attaching a tag recording the item's accession number and location information. This data is crucial, and our previous method of using small stickers has become problematic, as many of the older stickers are failing.

These tags – designed especially for use in small museums – will last many, years into the future, and improve our ability to keep track of our collection.

We also purchased over 100 mylar sleeves. Mylar is a specific plastic, which is very strong, stable and safe for use with delicate



Some of the lovely new archival supplies purchased from the Friends of the Museum program

documents. Over the next few months, we will continue our program of rehousing the valuable document collection into individual mylar sleeves, to preserve and protect them. Part of our photographic collection will also be rehousing in purpose-made mylar sleeves. This is being done as we rehouse the entire document

collection into the new compactus which was installed in 2017. A large roll of Tyvek was also bought, to wrap artefacts and protect them from dust.

The investment in these products will help stabilise and preserve the collection into the future.

The archival supplies have been paid for with the interest accrued from the *Friends of the Museum* program. This

is only the third time we have accessed these funds – the other times were to purchase the solar panels which are now on the roof of the Museum, saving hundreds of dollars off our operating costs every quarter, and to print the *Brief History of the Dunwich Benevolent Asylum* booklet, which sells consistently in the Museum shop.



Please Help Us Drum Up the Story...

DID THE BEATLES COME TO DUNWICH STATE SCHOOL?

This beautifully decorated drum was recently donated to the Museum. It has been in a storeroom at Dunwich State School for many years.



The drum is inscribed with "To Pat, Much love and just keep banging away, Ringo S"

Does anyone have any information about its history? We have a lot of questions! Who painted it? Who is "Pat"? And could it be the REAL Ringo Starr who autographed it!??

Friends of the Museum

Become a Friend of the Stradbroke Museum.

Donate \$500 or more, and receive life membership, invitations to all Museum events, and acknowledgement in the Museum.

All donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Please contact the Museum for information.

MEMBERSHIPS

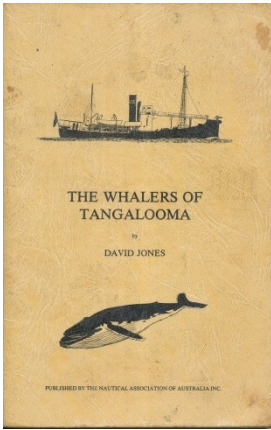
are due from July 1.

Please see enclosed form for renewal details, or give us a ring at the Museum....

Drop us an email if you would like to make the switch to electronic newsletters.

You'll receive the newsletter earlier, and the photos look great on the screen!

Whaling Photos Surface



A copy of “*The Whalers of Tangalooma*” by David Jones (see left) was recently donated to the Museum collection. It is an excellent account of the ships and the whaling industry, published in 1980. Aunt Hazel Kennedy recently provided the Museum with photographs of the whaling station at Tangalooma to be digitised. We scanned the photographs to archival standard and returned them to Aunt Hazel. They are a valuable addition to the history of Moreton Bay.



Whale coming up to Flensing Deck.



Blubber being marked out to be cut away from jaw.

Reclaiming Local History

The Museum received a donation of documents from the recently disbanded RCC Local History Collection. A treasure trove of historical material relating to North Stradbroke Island was returned to the Island, including the Point Lookout Development Control Plan Study; the Faith Walker Collection of research notes; a 1929 watercolour painting of the Stradbroke Golf Club (artist unknown, see below), a research file for State Heritage Listing nominations of houses in Point Lookout, amongst many more documents.



Date Claimers

As part of the Quandamooka Festival, the Museum is hosting the following events:

The Social History of Fire
Morning Tea and talk by
Aunt Evelyn Parkin
Friday June 8 2018
10.30am

Islands of Innocence
Art installation
Sunday August 12 2018,
6-9pm

Film, talk and discussion
about frontier wars by
Dr Timothy Bottoms and
Dr Ray Kerkhove
Friday evening, August 24

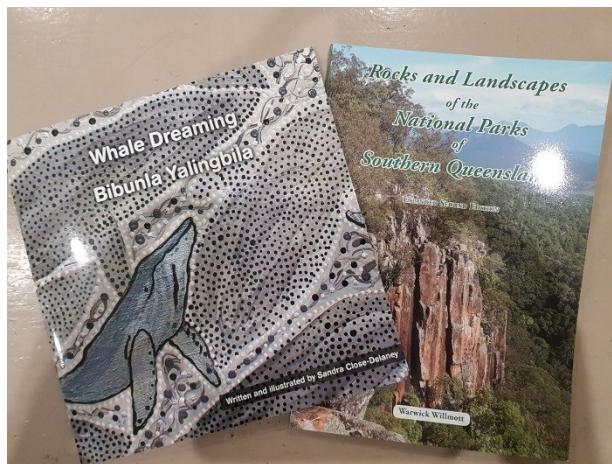
Keep an eye on social media for updates and more information

New Books in the Museum Shop

"Whale Dreaming, Bibunla Yalingbila" is the latest book available in the Museum Shop. Written and illustrated by Sandra Close-Delaney, it is written in Jandai language with an English translation. It tells a story of a humpback whale travelling north past Minjerribah and Mulgumpin.

There are also limited stocks of *"Rocks and Landscapes of the National Parks of Southern Queensland"* by Warwick Willmott.

And after a Summer hiatus, the cumquat trees are back in action. There are plentiful supplies of marmalade in the Museum Shop and at The Green Room in Point Lookout.



A Corker of an Idea

A couple of Museum members—Joan Benham and Ursula Cotterill—have got together to create some quirky and interesting corkboards, to raise funds for the Museum.

From studying the corks, it is apparent that substantial "research" into various wines from around the world has been conducted!

They are selling the corkboards for \$40 each, including the hanging hooks. Contact us here at the Museum if you are interested in purchasing one. Thank you Joan and Ursula for your dedication :-)



Easter Raffle Winners

The Easter Raffle was a huge success, raising over \$900!

- Prize 1: Crocheted rug, handmade by Jan Smith. Won by Nicole Steevison
- Prize 2: Multi-ticket, donated by Stradbroke Flyer. Won by Fiona Moore
- Prize 3: Crocheted slippers, handmade by Constance Millar. Won by Carol Beavis
- Prize 4: \$30 voucher for the Museum Shop. Won by Tess Lowe

Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket, and a special thank you to the very generous donors of the prizes.

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VOLUNTEER AT THE MUSEUM!

Volunteering at the Museum is a great way to meet new people, share your skills or learn new ones, and find out a whole lot of interesting stuff about the history and people of North Stradbroke Island.

We have roles for front of house staff, tour guides, researchers, cataloguers, gardeners, jam makers, dusters etc etc.

Being a Museum volunteer doesn't tie you down to a regular commitment. You don't have to dedicate any particular amount of time, and we will provide training for your area of interest. We try to match you with a task you will find fun and interesting.

For more information, call Lisa or Elisabeth at the Museum on 3409 9699, or drop us an email. We'd love to see you.

