

Historical Society of the Northern Territory

Patron: The Hon Austin Asche AC

NEWSLETTER June 2021

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HSNT Committee – President: Matthew James; Vice President: Bev Phelts;

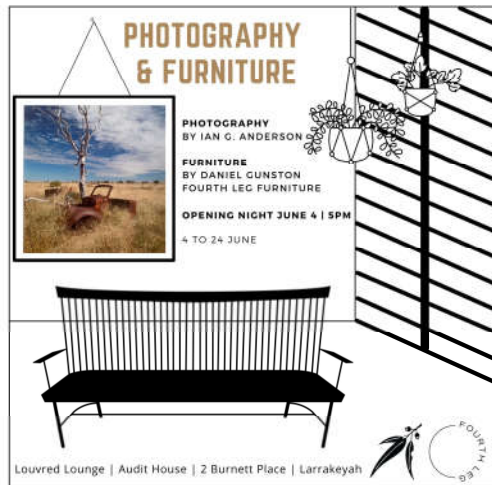
Secretary: Wendy Asche; Treasurer: Lyn Reid; others - Brian Reid, Judy Boland,

Ian Anderson, Derek Pugh, Rosemary Chalmers, Robyn Smith, Clayton

Frederickson & Libby Siebert

FUTURE EVENTS

Friday 4 - 24 June - Photography Exhibition by Ian Anderson at Audit House



Ian developed an enduring fascination for Australian heritage growing up in Western Queensland, listening to his father's stories of old times. His award-winning photography, which presents images of Australian history, flora, fauna, and landscapes, is very comfortable adorning the walls of the historic Audit House.

The Exhibition will be held in the Louvred Lounge, Audit House

Saturday 5 June - Parap Markets

Janie Mason will be running a HSNT book stall at the markets. Drop in, say hello and pick up one of our discounted books

Saturday 12 June - Gala Event at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory

Deep Blue Gala Fundraiser is a night of fun at the Museum. Experience the glamour and style of dining under the stars, fine wine and outstanding entertainment.

The Honourable Clare Martin AO, Chair and Mr Marcus Schutenko, Director invite you to join them for a gala fundraiser in support of the Northern Territory's premier cultural and scientific institution, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

Discover the Museum after dark and celebrate the official opening of the newly refurbished Colin Jack-Hinton Maritime Gallery.

Bookings are essential: Table of 10: \$2,500 Single ticket: \$250

Contact: Andrea Wicking on 0428 872 367 or Email: andrea.wicking@magnt.net.au

Sunday 20 June - Historical Southport 150 (+1) Birthday Bash - 8am-1pm - Mira Square

Come and join in the celebrations that Southport residents have organised. There will be market stalls and lots of fun for the kids. See the attached flyer for more information and directions

Sunday 20 June - HSNT 2021 Day Field Trip - "The North South Track"

Itinerary

The intent of this field trip is to follow the old track from Southport to Adelaide River, used by Overland Telegraph Line workers, miners and prospectors, Royal Mail Coach bullock wagons and any adventurer that wanted to get inland from Port Darwin. Includes a range of WW2 sites along the way.

Start

- 8.00am Southport 150th Birthday Event at Mira Square, Southport NT (This is optional, HSNT would like to support this event by attending)
- 10.00am Meet at Southport Landing / boat ramp
- Travel south on Mira Road
- Tumbling Waters old WW2 crossing
- Rum Jungle railway siding/hotel
- Batchelor Museum
- Lunch – Batchelor
- 1.30pm Travel south on Coach Rd
- Stapleton Creek siding/hotel/cemetery
- Old Stapleton Creek Gold Mine (to be confirmed)
- Snake Creek WW2 Armament Depot
- Adelaide River Railway Museum (to be confirmed)
- Field trip end - Travel Stuart Highway return to Darwin

High clearance vehicle needed. Please wear appropriate clothing and shoes. Bring your own lunch, drinks & chairs. If you wish to attend, please RSVP by Wednesday 16 June to Bev 0417868827 or email: hsnt@iinet.net.au

Friday 9 July - NT Seniors Expo - 10am to 2pm

This year's expo will be held at the CDU Stadium, 235 Abala Rd, Marrara

WW11 Tour of Pell Mell - No4 Repair & Salvage Unit - Expressions of Interest



Officers Mess fountain

The Historical Society is organising a tour of Pell Mell with the owner and host, Dr Jan Hills. The tour will take approximately 2 hours and we will travel by a 12 seater bus to Pell Mell departing from the Historical Society's office in Woolner.

The Pell Mell tour will provide an insight into the operation and happenings of the 'Restore and Service Unit' (4RSU) stationed at Pell Mell. Some of the things that you will see are -

Pell Mell Air Strip, gunning emplacements, revetments, WWII site concrete slabs, engineering workshop slab with signatures, slit trenches, gunning emplacement with gun tripod, oxygen making equipment, wheel strut, loading ramp, running emplacement on the hill east of house, flaming furies, bridge, Airman's & Officers mess sites, propeller service pit, bomb site, shells in concrete slabs, recreation hall, parade ground, trench art & insulators in trees

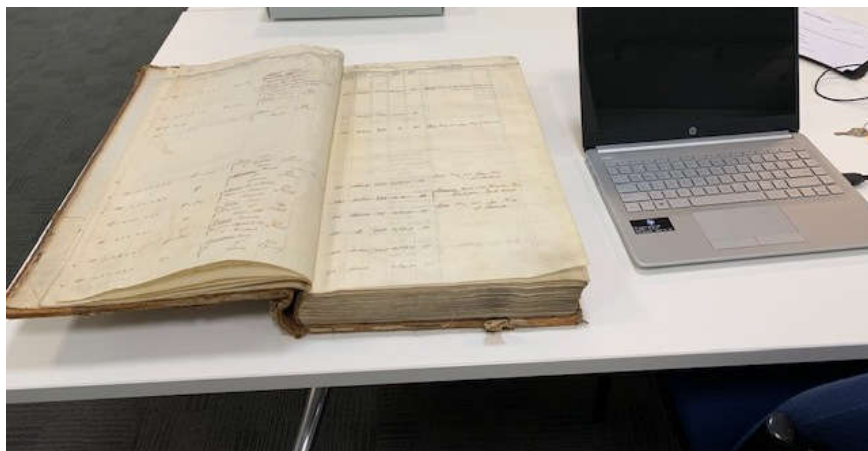
In April, Pell Mell was featured on *Backroads*. There will be some walking so low fitness level required. The whole tour will take around 4 hours and will depart morning on a July Sunday. Date yet to be decided. Cost of the tour is \$88 which covers hire of the bus and payment of the tour.

For the tour to be viable and to cover costs, we need 12 people. If you are interested in this tour, please email: hsnt@iinet.net.au or ring Bev on 0417868827 by 15 June.

The Northern Territory Land Grant Ledgers at the National Archives of Australia – Millner office by Rosemary Chalmers



One of the ledgers. They are very large and heavy.



Photographs courtesy Rosemary Chalmers

The Millner office of the National Archives of Australia holds two ledgers which relate to the Land Grants in the very early years of Northern Territory's history. The second of these two ledgers is now available for viewing on the NAA website. The reference for these two ledgers is as follows:

Series Number E1642 – Registers of grants for land in the Northern Territory arising from the original Land Orders (Grant Books)

The series covers the period from 20 May 1870 through to 26 May 1914. The first ledger (Volume) includes the Townships and Hundreds – Palmerston (Darwin), Southport, Daly, Bagot (part of), Hutchison, Guy, Strangways, Ayers, Cavenagh, Hughes, Colton, Finnis, Goyder, Hart, Howard, Milne, Tumbling Waters, Virginia and Blyth. The second ledger has Beaconsfield, Bagot (continued from the first volume and covers the bulk of this Hundred), Sanderson, Bray, Bunday, Burrundie, Borroloola, Hawkshaw, Stuart (Alice Springs), Urapunga, Playford, Union Town (Pine Creek) and Brooks Creek.

Information for each block of land, which goes over two pages, includes such details as the Lot or Section Number, The size of the block, Price paid, Name of purchaser which in some cases includes their occupation, Date of the Grant, Number of the Original Land Order, Whether the Land Order was Registered in London or Adelaide, Date of Selection, Section or Lot selected, Name and residence of the person whose name appears on the original Land Order and any Remarks.

The NAA office at Millner is organising for the first ledger to also be digitised, it has to be sent to Canberra, but it is unknown when this will be completed.

I have already transcribed information relating to the five towns that appear in the first ledger – Palmerston, Southport, Daly, Tumbling Waters and Virginia. So if anyone has any queries in relation to the original owners of these town blocks you can email me at: rosechal@inet.net.au . In time I hope to complete transcribing the information from both ledgers.

Rosemary Chalmers, PO Box 1385, Palmerston NT 0831

HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST EVENTS

International Nurses' Day

On 12 May, the CDU Nursing Museum celebrated International Nurses' Day with the Administrator of the Northern Territory at Government House. Several HSNT members attended the event.



Her Honour, the NT Administrator, Vicki O'Halloran with current and ex nurses



Jan Richardson, Janie Mason & Josie Curr



Our Patron, Austin Ashe with Lyn Reid



Brian Reid, Jan Hills & Lyn Reid



Ian Anderson & Jared Archibald



Wendy Ashe & Wendy James