

Historical Society of the Northern Territory

Patron: The Hon Austin Asche AC

NEWSLETTER December & January 2022

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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

Saturday 27 November- Christmas Lights at O'Keefe House - Katherine

OPENING NIGHT
SAT 27 NOV 6PM TO 8.30PM
6PM TO 7PM XMAS CRAFT FOR KIDS
7.15PM KRA CHOIR
SAUSAGE SIZZLE AVAILABLE
XMAS TREATS FOR SALE

Christmas Lights at O'Keefe House

**RUSTIC CHRISTMAS LIGHT DISPLAY
AND TRADITIONAL XMAS GOODIES**

Homemade Traditional Christmas Cakes, Puddings,
Biscuits, Sweets, Jams, Chutneys, Books and Plants
Come and purchase your Christmas Treats.
Sit and relax in the garden light display
with family and friends.

**This is a National Trust Fundraiser
for O'Keefe House on Riverbank Drive
Entry by Donation**

Opening Night: Sat 27th Nov 6pm to 8.30pm
Other Nights: 7pm to 8.30pm
Fri 3 Dec & Sat 4 Dec
Fri 10 Dec, Fri 17 Dec & Sat 18 Dec

Location: O'Keefe House, Riverbank Drive
For more info: katherineinternationaltrust.org.au

Saturday 4 & 18 December - HSNT bookstall at Parap Market

Our wonderful volunteer, Janie will be running our book stall

Sunday 5 December at 3pm - Christmas afternoon tea at History House

Our Christmas get together will be held at History House from 3pm-5pm

For catering purposes, RSVP by Wednesday 1 December to Bev 0417868827 or email: hsnt@iinet.net.au .

History House is located at 1/16 Charlton Court, Woolner. Charlton St is off Bishop Street (look for pink Middis Lighting). Turn into Charlton Street then first right into Charlton Court. History House is at the bottom of the court.



Friday 10 December - Celebrating the Great Air Race 103rd Anniversary



The 103rd Anniversary will be celebrated 4pm to 4.30pm at the Ross Smith Memorial, intersection Ross Smith Road and East Point Road. The RAAF and Air Force Cadets will be involved in the ceremony and refreshments will follow the service. The public are welcome to attend.

Membership for 2022 (January to December 2022) is now due

Individual membership:	\$60.00
Concession membership student/pensioner:	\$35.00
Family membership: two adults at one address:	\$70.00
Institutional membership	\$70.00

We only accept cash, cheque, money order or bank transfer (no credit card).

Bank transfer details: Historical Society of the NT BSB:015 896 (ANZ) Account No: 228391976

Remember to include your "SURNAME & MEMBERSHIP" against your deposit and email your details to hsnt@iinet.net.au if your personal details have changed.

Mystery Deposit of \$35

The Historical Society had a \$35 deposit into our bank account on 28 October. There was no name or identification attached to the deposit. Would the person who made the deposit please contact Bev on 0417868827 or email the Society on hsnt@iinet.net.au

Wanted - books for our next Booksale early next year

Are you having a Christmas/New Year cleanup? If you have any unwanted books in reasonable condition, the Historical Society is happy to take them off your hands to sell at our next booksale. The books can be on any topic - history, archaeology, cooking, fiction, non fiction etc.

We are happy to collect the books from your house or they can be dropped off by prior arrangement at our premises in Woolner.

Contact Bev on 0417868827 or email: hsnt@iinet.net.au

Vale Dr Pamela Oliver

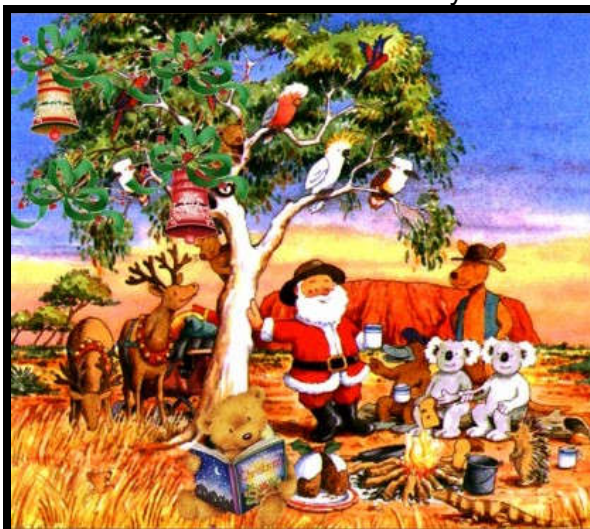


Dr Pamela Oliver was a part-time researcher on an ARC-funded project in the School of Australian and International Studies at Deakin University, and an honorary research associate at Monash University's School of History and School of Asian Languages and Studies. Pam was also an Honorary Research Associate of the School of Historical Studies at Monash University. She completed her PhD at the University of Melbourne and held a Master of Arts in Japanese Studies from Monash University. As part of her valuable work, she identified over 3000 boxes containing records of Japanese companies that operated in Australia before the Second World War for the National Archives.

She had written widely on her specialty - the Japanese presence in Australia. Her books include *Allies, Enemies, Trading Partners: Records on Australia and the Japanese* and *Empty North: The Japanese Presence and Australian Reactions, 1860s to 1942* which won the 2007 Northern Territory Chief Minister's History Award. The Society had published two of her books *The Resolute CLA Abbott: Swaggie, Policeman, Light Horse Captain, Pastoralist, Politician and the Northern Territory's Wartime Administrator 1886-1975* and *The Intrepid Hilda Abbott: Author, Designer, Red Cross Officer, Political Wife, 1890-1984*.

Pam's publications were articulate, well researched and inspiring. She will certainly be missed by the history and academic community

This will be the last newsletter for the year. The Historical Society Committee wishes all our members a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year. We shall see you all in 2022.



HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST EVENTS

History Colloquium

On Saturday 30 October, the NT Professional Historians Association held its annual all day colloquium at the NT Library. A variety of presenters spoke on a wide range of topics starting with Aboriginal history, to war canoes, early bush pilots and nursing. The highlight of the day was a delightful performance by four vocalists who sang a song which had been written by the Darwin Dingo Glee Club 1895-1905.



The PHA NT committee: Steve Farram, Samantha Wells, Bev Phelts, Alan Davis, Wendy Beresford-Maning & Brian Reid



Derek Pugh, Jared Archibald & Samantha Wells



Julie Mastin & Janie Mason



Peter & Libby Siebert



Brian Reid & Roger Davey



Yvonne Forrest & Penny Baird

Launch of *Worth Fighting For: Indigenous Territorians in the Defence of Australia* at East Point Military Museum

Dr Norman Cramp, Director of the Darwin Military Museum, had his book launched by The Hon. Luke Gosling OAM, MP, Member for Solomon. Around 60 guests including Navy and Army personnel attended the launch.



From left: Steve Cubillo, Bob Shewring, Norm Cramp, Richard Fejo, Luke Gosling & Desmond Mayo.
Photo courtesy Ian Anderson



Norm Cramp & Austin Asche



Maisie Austin, Phyllis Williams & Marion Farram



Norm Cramp, Austin Asche & Richard Fejo

Photo courtesy Ian Anderson

Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the first message sent via subsea telegraph cable from Java to Darwin (then Palmerston)

On 20 November, a crowd gathered at Jevois Park to commemorate one of Australia's greatest technological feats. The construction of the international telegraph system connected Australia to the rest of the world from 1871 onwards. The commemoration also included the unveiling of an interpretive sign on the Subsea Telegraph Cables Landing site and the historic event associated with it.

The sign was unveiled by Vicki O'Halloran, NT Administrator; Siuaji Raja, Indonesian Consulate and Paul Kirby, Member for Port Darwin. Other dignitaries who attended were Allan McGill, Chair Heritage Council; Indonesian Consulate officials; Richard Fejo, Larrakia; Craig O'Halloran and the Dingo Glee Club.



From left: Siuaji Raja, Paul Kirby, Vicki O'Halloran & Richard Fejo at the new interpretive sign



Overland telegraph line display



Samantha Wells and Jared Archibald manning the covid station



Part of the cable can still be seen when the tide is out.