

## Historical Society of the Northern Territory

**Patron:** The Hon Austin Asche AC

### NEWSLETTER June 2022

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Email: [hsnt@iinet.net.au](mailto:hsnt@iinet.net.au) Newsletter Editor: Bev Phelts

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, Clayton Frederickson, Penny Baird & Libby Siebert

### FUTURE EVENTS

#### **Tuesday 31 May - Dr Mickey Dewar Oration at Nitmiluk Lounge, Parliament House - 5.30pm - 8pm**

National Archives of Australia invites you and your colleagues to the Dr Mickey Dewar oration at NT Parliament House, Darwin, on 31 May 2022.

Dr Mickey (Michelle) Dewar (1956–2017) contributed significantly to the Northern Territory as a respected historian and as a 3-term member of the National Archives of Australia Advisory Council, drawing upon her comprehensive knowledge of and passion for Australian history.

Patricia Turner AM, CEO of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) is this year's speaker. The daughter of an Arrernte man and a Gurdanji woman, Pat was raised in Alice Springs. As CEO of NACCHO, she is at the forefront of community efforts to close the gap in health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The evening's MC is Gurindji man Charlie King OAM, veteran sports commentator and human rights campaigner.

Refreshments will be available from 5:30 pm. Oration commences at 6:00 pm.

#### **Friday 3 June - NT Administrator to mark the Queen's Anniversary**

NT Administrator Vicki O'Halloran will be hosting several celebratory events next week to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, including a musical performance by a 20-piece Big Band. "Music on the Lawn: A Jubilee Event" will be held Friday, June 3, on Liberty Square Lawn overlooking Government House. The performance will be hosted by the Administrator to coincide with the Platinum Jubilee Central Weekend—commemorating Queen Elizabeth's coronation on 4 June 1952.

Government House, Parliament, and other iconic memorials around the country will be illuminated in royal purple. The Queen has visited the Northern Territory five times, including an overnight stay at Government House in 1982.

The 'Music on the Lawn' celebration will feature the Band of the 1st Brigade and the Australian Army Band Sydney. Contemporary music will be performed by vocalists and instrumentalists of the combined 20-piece Big Band. It is a free event.

Seating will be available on a first-come basis, guests are advised to bring picnic rugs or portable chairs. Food and beverages can be bought on the grounds. Entertainment commences from 4:30pm with jazz outfit 'The Changes' providing entertainment at 5:00pm.

### **Saturday 4 June - HSNT bookstall at Parap Markets**

Our wonderful volunteer, Janie will be running our book stall. Drop in and say hello and pick up a bargain

### **Sunday 5 June - Katherine Heritage Tour - 8:30am - 11:30am**

Take a tour around Katherine's hidden historical sites while being chauffeured in a classic car. This tour starts and finishes at O'Keeffe House and Gardens on Riverbank Drive and includes morning tea upon your return. Seats depend on availability of classic cars so be quick to secure your seat. Book at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/907075>



### **Tuesday 7 June - talk on Historical Child Abuse: institutions and the law at NT Archives, Kelsey Crescent, Millner at 5.30pm**

Heather Kerley will draw on her experience representing survivors of institutional childhood abuse. She will explore the dark history of infamous Northern Territory institutions and shed light on the struggles for survivor recognition and the hurdles imposed by an imperfect legal system. Heather will also discuss historical cases and the importance of the archives in pursuing civil compensation claims.

Heather is an Associate at Maurice Blackburn Lawyers working exclusively in the area of institutional childhood abuse. She has represented numerous clients in civil compensation claims against private, religious and government institutions for physical, sexual and psychological abuse throughout the Northern Territory and Queensland.

### **Thursday 9 June - Trivia Night at the Trailer Boat Club - 7pm-9pm**

Friends of the Darwin Botanic Gardens are running a quiz night to raise funds. \$20 per person & teams of 8.

To book - <https://www.trybooking.com/BYDIL> or via email: [bookings.fodbg@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.fodbg@gmail.com)

### **Sunday 12 June - talk on 1930s author Ernestine Hill at the NT Library at 2pm**

Dr Eleanor Hogan will talk on northern identity and history in the writings of 1930s author, Ernestine Hill. Hill wrote *The Territory, Kabbarli: A Personal Memoir of Daisy Bates*, *My Love Must Wait*, *Water into Gold* and *The Great Australian Loneliness*. This is a free event

### **Friday 24 & Saturday 25 June - Government House Open Days**

Government House will be open to the public on Friday 3.00pm to 6.00pm and Saturday 10.00am to 2.00 pm. The public are invited to wander the beautiful gardens and State Rooms of Government House.

## **22-24 July - HSNT 2022 Victoria River Region Field Trip - Itinerary**

Dates: Fri 22, Sat 23 and Sun 24 July 2022.

Base camp: Victoria River Roadhouse (VRR) - Activities commence 8.00am Friday morning 22 July

Day 1 Friday 22 July

- · Escarpment Walk - Victoria Highway, 2 km west of VRR.
- · Old Vic River Crossing
- · Nawulbinbin Walk - Situated off the Victoria Highway, 10 km west of VRR.

Day 2 Saturday 23 July

- · Travel to Timber Ck 180km return
- · Nacheroos Lookout
- · Timber Creek Police Station and Museum
- · Gregory's Tree
- · Bullita Homestead (4WD vehicle preferred)
- · Return travel to VRR

Day 3 Sunday 24 July

- · Easy morning at VRR - drive to the Vic River access and walk up to the gorge lookout
- · End of field trip - travel home

Day 4 Monday 25 July - Optional Trip - NT / WA Border (4WD vehicle required)

- · Travel west on Vic Highway to Duncan Rd.
- · Travel south (approx 20 km) to NT/WA border.
- · Bush camp for the night

Day 5 Tuesday 26 July – NT / WA Border (4WD vehicle required)

- Travel home

4WDs are only needed for the Bullita Homestead leg and the optional Day 4 trip.  
If you wish to participate on the trip, contact Bev [hsnt@iinet.net.au](mailto:hsnt@iinet.net.au) or 0417868827

## **September History Mining Conference in Burra, SA**

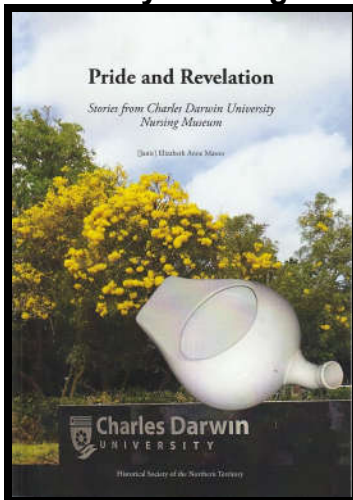
The Australian Mining History Association Conference will take place at Burra, South Australia for 18-25 September 2022. There will be local visits to the town, mines and smelters, and longer day trips to Kapunda and Moonta. If you are interested in attending, registrations are now open.

See the AMHA website for registration details  
<https://www.mininghistory.asn.au/next-conference/>

The call for papers is open. The organising committee invites offers of presentations on any topic relevant to mining history. Individual oral presenters other than keynote speakers will be allocated 20 minutes with an additional 5 minutes for questions.

Contact Ross Both at [rosannb@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rosannb@bigpond.net.au) with title and abstract.

## New HSNT Publication - **Pride and Revelation: Stories from Charles Darwin University Nursing Museum** by Janie Mason



The Historical Society's recent publication was launched at the NT Library on 12 May.

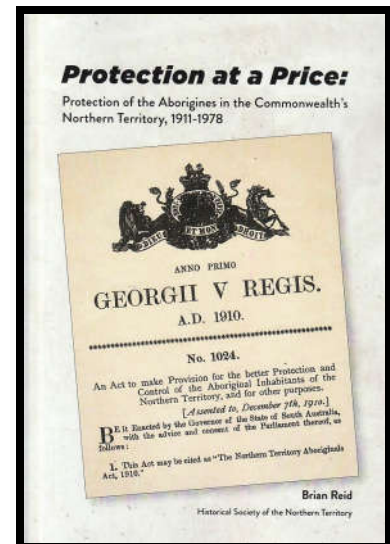
The book is about pride in the local nursing story and a sense of revelation and wonder expressed as these nursing stories emerge from the Charles Darwin University Nursing Museum. The stories are well illustrated with pictures of various artefacts held by the Museum. The Museum's collections are significant for the unique local story of nurses which is part of the Australian nursing heritage.

The book is available for \$25 plus \$20 postage. If you wish to purchase the book, contact Bev [hsnt@iinet.net.au](mailto:hsnt@iinet.net.au) or 0473446201

## New HSNT Publication - **Protection at a Price: Protection of the Aborigines in the Commonwealth's Northern Territory, 1911-1978** by Brian Reid

The book follows the shifts in aboriginal protection policy and the price Aboriginal people had to pay for that protection in almost 70 years of Commonwealth administration of the Territory. The book continues the story begun in *Power and Protection* starting with the *Aboriginal Ordinance 1911* when Aboriginal people were believed by many to be dying out. It ends with the *Land Rights(NT) Act 1976* not long before Territory self government, when Aborigines by then had become vibrant part of the Territory community.

The book is available for \$30 plus \$10 postage. If you wish to purchase the book, contact Bev [hsnt@iinet.net.au](mailto:hsnt@iinet.net.au) or 0473446201



## Seeking a Northern Territory Representative on the Federation of Australian Historical Societies (FAHS)

After several years on the FAHS Executive Committee, our representative, Ian Anderson wishes to stand down. Therefore, the Historical Society is seeking a member who would be interested in representing the Northern Territory.

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies was established in 1977, has eight constituent members, one in each state and territory, and is the national peak body representing the interests of about 1000 historical societies and about 100,000 members throughout Australia. More information on FAHS is at <https://www.history.org.au/about/>

The NT representative does not need to be on the HSNT Committee but would need to attend four FAHS meetings annually via Zoom, produce a quarterly report to FAHS (by gleanng information from our monthly newsletters) and report to the HSNT Committee (via email) important updates/information from FAHS meetings. This is an unpaid position and Ian would be happy to provide a handover. If you are interested in the position and would like more information, please contact Bev Phelts on 0473446201 or email: [hsnt@iinet.net.au](mailto:hsnt@iinet.net.au)

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST EVENTS

### 12 May - Launch of *Pride & Revelation* and International Nurses Day

Celebrating nurses on Florence Nightingale's birthday: Janie Mason's latest book was launched by Jared Archibald, Curator of History. Ninety invited guests attended the launch who included Luke Gosling, MP for Solomon, Lia Finocchiaro, MLA Spillet and Opposition Leader and Kezia Purick, MLA Goyder.



From left: Luke Gosling (recovering from covid), Janie Mason & Jared Archibald



From left: Kezia Purick, Janie Mason & Jared Archibald



Sarah Marris, Advancement, Charles Darwin University & Janie Mason



From left: Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Leader of the Opposition, Professor Hilary Winchester, CDU Secretary, Angela Sheedy & Libby Webb & Dr Bev Turnbull, ex CDU nursing academics





Luke Gosling & Professor Hilary Winchester



Jared Archibald



Lyn Reid & Bev Phelts selling Pride & Revelation

Photographs courtesy Bev Phelts, Denis Doan & Janie Mason

Friends of the North Australian Railway are promoting 2022 memberships. If you have a skill that can assist the team - please join up !

***Friends of the North Australian Railway 2022 Membership***

Please indicate your support in wanting to become part of the team of volunteers and committee members who are involved in lobbying, restoration, preservation, recording, sharing and protecting the History of the North Australia Railway, NT by becoming a Friend of North Australia Railway at Adelaide River. You can do this by filling in your contact details below.

Name: .....

Organisation:

Mail Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ..... email.....

Skills

.....

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby enclose :

\$200.00 Corporate membership

\$15.00 family membership    \$10.00 Individual

\$5.00 pensioner    \$ donation \_\_\_\_\_

\$ Balance \_\_\_\_\_

EFT details: BSB :633 000 account : 137122776 Bendigo Bank

Email [friendsnorthaustralianrailway@gmail.com.au](mailto:friendsnorthaustralianrailway@gmail.com.au) Our mailing address is FNAR c/- PO Box 78, Berrimah, NT 0810. Phone Peter Poole 0482614300 or 89273285 or [peterpoole176@gmail.com](mailto:peterpoole176@gmail.com)