



NEWSLETTER



Sandgate & District Historical Society & Museum

New Opening Hours: Wednesday & Sunday 9:00 am – 1:30 pm
(other times by appointment)

Phone: 3869 2283 Email: info@sandgatemuseum.com.au Web: <http://www.sandgatemuseum.com.au>
<https://www.facebook.com/SandgateHistoricalMuseum>

December 2024 - Vol 4



As the festive season approaches, it's time to reflect on the remarkable year we've had at the Sandgate Historical Society and Museum. This year has been one of transformation, resilience, and connection, with many exciting milestones achieved.

The team has worked tirelessly this year, and thanks to the generous support of the local community and businesses, we successfully raised funds at the Einbunpin Festival. This achievement would not have been possible without your help, and we deeply appreciate your contributions.

We have also made significant strides in digitising our archives, ensuring that our collection of artefacts and stories is preserved for generations to come.

The ongoing planning for the museum's renovation and restoration has been a major focus this year. While this is a substantial and challenging task, it is essential to ensure the long-term sustainability of the museum and its invaluable records.

None of our achievements would have been possible without the dedication and passion of our volunteers. Whether tending to the museum grounds, organising events or sharing their expertise each contribution has been vital to our success.

Looking Ahead to 2025

The new year holds exciting possibilities:

- Launching our digitised archives to make our resources accessible to all.
- Hosting themed exhibitions and talks to explore new facets of local history.

This holiday season, I encourage everyone to reflect on the stories that have shaped our lives and to cherish the history that binds us as a community. I am immensely grateful for the unwavering support of our members, volunteers and local businesses. Together, we continue to preserve Sandgate's rich history for generations to come.

Wishing you all a joyous Christmas and a safe, happy New Year.

Zac McHardy



CWA LADIES

During October we welcomed a group of women from the local Country Women's Association (CWA). After a wander around the museum's exhibits and a chat to volunteers, the Vice President, Anne Jenkins, presented their well-researched publication *Sandgate Branch - Our History* to our Vice President, Clive Porritt. This will be a very useful addition to our library.

Thank you.



GUIDED HISTORY WALK

A great time was had by all who joined our two very successful guided history walks along Flinders Parade during October.



Pattie, a volunteer of the museum, accompanied by her assistants, guided the attendees along the waterfront giving everyone a glimpse into the past of some of our historical houses and the colourful characters who inhabited them.

Thanks also to another volunteer, Marie, and her family for hosting the Devonshire morning tea on her verandah at Meridian.

The museum plans to conduct more walks in 2025. Please follow our Facebook and Web pages for further updates.



SANDGATE BLACK & WHITE BUSES

Who remembers Sandgate's Black & White buses?

We'd like to thank all who shared their memories of Sandgate's Black & White buses in response to our Facebook post. We received lots of great stories and shared memories.

The museum has more information on Sandgate's buses and currently has a small transport display – do pop in any Wednesday or Sunday morning.

The following link may be of interest re the history of Sandgate's buses:

<https://www.qocs.org.au/black-white-buses-sandgate/>

Happy reading.



B&W bus bogged Queens Parade, Brighton - c1961

ROBERT ALLAN FRANCIS

Robert was born at Zillmere (Bracken Ridge) on 12 December 1895, the second son of Frederick John Francis and his wife Isabella (nee Watt). His father was a farmer at Bracken Ridge and a local park is named after him.



Robert attended Sandgate State School, probably from about 1900 to 1907.

He joined the Australian Imperial Force, on 19 September 1914, along with his cousin Jesse Gaskell, also of Bracken Ridge.

On 22 December 1914 he embarked on the Transport "Ceramic" for Alexandria, Egypt, arriving in February 1915. From there he went on to serve on the Gallipoli Peninsula, and at Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt from 4 May 1915 to June 1916, when he was posted to France. While in France he was injured when a gun carriage ran over his ankle.

In October 1918 he embarked for leave in Australia. After his discharge in 1919 he returned to farming at Bracken Ridge. He married Lily Muller at Bracken Ridge in October 1919.

SPECIAL HISTORICAL DEVONSHIRE TEAS



Are you interested in booking a special Devonshire morning tea with a dash of history for your friends, social club, or group?

Contact the museum to arrange.

Cost: \$15.00 per person.

Thanks to Lynne Ives and her welcoming band of volunteers who provide this wonderful service.

MUSEUM UPDATE

Digitisation

Following on from the Significance Assessment and Conservative Training this year, the museum will be undertaking digitisation in early 2025. The museum will use some of the Historical Organisation Assistance (HOA) Grant funds to employ experienced digitiser Jacqui Treloar to train volunteers and provide them with skills and resources to develop and follow a process enabling digitisation of the records in the museum's collection. Volunteers will then begin the task of transferring all photos and documents to digital records to ensure their conservation and to enhance cataloguing and research access.

Building Update

Michael Ingamells from Moreton Bay Designs is finalising concept plans to renovate the building to repair termite damage, upgrade drainage and retaining walls and provide disability access. Once plans are prepared, the management committee will be exploring funding opportunities.

John Campbell paintings

Linda and Grahame Clarke, descendants of ER Drury, recently donated two watercolour paintings of Saltwood, the residence of the Drury family from 1895 to 1919, painted by renowned artist John Campbell. The paintings are in need of restoration and have been offered to the Queensland Art Gallery so they can be stored and displayed in a climate-controlled environment. We have requested copies for display in the museum.



Saltwood by John Campbell - 1890

If you would like more information or would like to be involved in any of these activities, please contact the museum.

TORNADO AT SANDGATE

(The Brisbane Courier – Mon 20 Feb 1893)

“The storm at Sandgate yesterday week was of very great force (says our Sandgate correspondent), and at about a quarter-past 9 o’clock came like a Tornado. It struck the town first between the Hon. J.P. Dickson’s house and Mr. Barrett’s, clearing a roadway about one chain and a half wide of large gum and ironbark trees as if they were mere straws; those that were not torn up by the roots are twisted off. How far back this goes I cannot say, as between the beach and the rising ground the back is now a large and deep lagoon of rainwater quite unfordable. The tornado seems to have gone round to the Cabbage-tree Creek. Here it first struck at the back of Mr. Lihou’s house on the point opposite the junction of Nudgee and Cabbage Tree Creeks, and tore away the bank, and let Lihou’s house drop from about 8ft. above the high mark down nearly to the level of the creek without much damage to the house.

Mr Lihou and his family had a terrible time of it. They were thrown down with the force of the wind and had to crawl on like crabs. On trying to go on his knees he was turned right over. The sailing boats Vivid and Gipsy, the latter belonging to Sir E.R. Drury (both 22ft. boats), dragged their moorings. The former brought up again half a mile below, near the Corporation Jetty. The Gipsy seems to be lifted almost bodily out of the water, capsized and sank.

Another boat, name unknown, with two men on board, like the Gipsy, was lifted out of the water and turned over. She then came up on her side, and the men clung to her. They had to hang on for a considerable time, in fact until the force of the wind abated. They had a very hard swim to shore.

A large whaleboat belonging to the Government was moored with two anchors – 56lb. of pig iron and half a lamp post. In spite of all this, she was blown out into the Bay. Fortunately, Mr. Hume, the Under Secretary for Lands had had his yacht beached just in time to have any damage.

The Lorna Doon, ketch was seen off Sandgate the night before the storm. When the storm lifted, she was again described drifting towards here dismasted. About a mile from the Sandgate pier, she was anchored and is now lying there.

There are two dangerous subsidence’s of the path on the road at the cliff side of the Upper Esplanade. During the storm the sea wall suffered a great deal, the waves lifting the structure up and down like a toy and breaking the joints of the huge logs in various places.

Some sheds were blown over, but as far as I can learn Lihou’s house is the only one damaged.

About midday the weather cleared off, and in the afternoon, we were cheered with a cool breeze and bright sunshine, but at 7.30 o’clock on Saturday morning it again poured rain.

The railway line was clear from Sandgate to Albion, the waters in Cabbage Tree, Nudgee, and Downfall Creeks having greatly subsided. At the Albion it was within a few inches of the bridge and rising at the rate of 6in. to 8in per hour.”



Lihou family house



Lihou family house



Cabbage Creek c1905

SANDGATE PIER – 1893

This photo of the Sandgate Pier, now called the Shorncliffe Pier was taken about the time of the 1893 cyclone and floods.

Note the debris on the shore, washed up by the tide.

The baths were segregated; the women's was near the shore whilst the men's was on the right of the pier about halfway out. This meant at low tide, unlike the men, women were unable to swim.



NEW OPENING HOURS FOR MUSEUM FOR 2025

The museum will be trialling new hours for 2025.
Sunday and Wednesday: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.

MUSEUM CHRISTMAS BREAK

The Museum will close for the Christmas/New Year holidays from Monday, 16 December 2024 and reopen on Wednesday 22 January 2025.



Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a relaxing and safe holiday season

SHORNCLIFFE STATION RENEWAL AND ACCESSIBILITY UPGRADE

Queensland Rail recently released a tender to refurbish the almost 130-year-old station, with works to commence in 2025.

More than 400 objects of heritage significance were discovered in the subfloor of the old station building, including train tickets, clothing, newspaper and bottles – some dating back to the 1890s. A 1940s sailor's cap, unearthed in the dig, was even reunited with its owner's family seven-decades later. Photos courtesy of Queensland Rail.

More information can be found at:
<https://www.queenslandrail.com.au/.../shorncliffe-station...>
and <https://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage-places/1473>



TEA WITH HISTORY

Come and enjoy a cup of tea with a historical twist for just \$15.00. *The last Thursday of every month at 10:00 am.*



Bookings necessary as numbers are limited. Phone: 38692283 or email us at: info@sandgatemuseum.com.au

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Membership is vital for the museum to function; without your assistance the society could not operate. We appreciate your continued support. Membership fees for 2024 were **due in April**. Single: \$20 Family: \$30 Payment options: by card or cash at the museum, or by direct debit.

(BSB: 084 365 Account: 52 501 9521)
(Please use your **name** as a reference for direct debit)

VOLUNTEERS

The museum operates thanks to the hard work and dedication of its volunteers. There's always room for more! Please drop in on Wednesday or Sunday to have a chat.



FACEBOOK & WEBSITE

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page and Website:
www.facebook.com/SandgateHistoricalMuseum
www.sandgatemuseum.com.au/

COMING UP IN 2025

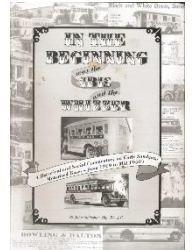
Museum Re-opens for 2025
Wednesday 22 January - 9:00 am
(see new hours below)

Monthly Management Meeting
Wednesday 22 January - 9:00 am

Tea with History
Thursday 30 January - 10:00 am
Cost: \$15

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

We have several publications for sale at the museum – for more details, pop into the museum or check out our website: www.sandgatemuseum.com.au/



NEW OPENING HOURS - 2025

Sunday and Wednesday: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.
(hours may vary according to volunteer availability)

MUSEUM ENTRY FEES

Adult: \$5.00
Child: \$3.00



NEWSLETTER

If you are still receiving the newsletter in hard copy and would like to receive it by email instead, please contact the museum.

SUPPORTERS

Taybian Marketing & Design
Power Building Group
Moreton Bay Designs

Full Moon Hotel
Arthouse Northside

Tim Mead Accounting Services
Dr Deborah Cronau
Nathan Street Bakery

Sandgate & District Historical Society & Museum Inc is proudly supported by Brisbane City Council



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