

progenitor



Genealogical Society of the Northern Territory Inc.

The Family History Place



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FRONT COVER: DC3 Royal Australian Air Force damaged in Cyclone Tracy Christmas Day 1974.

Cyclone Tracy: A collection of correspondence for [my children] on the 25th Anniversary, Christmas 1999 / Rosalie Jacobs

Rosalie has agreed to share her experiences of evacuation following Cyclone Tracy and the aftermath for the family. These comments come from personal correspondence and artefacts including labels and airline tickets.

The collection begins with a letter to grandparents dated 10 December 1974 outlining the arrangements for the children's planned holiday with them in Melbourne and Canberra. They were to leave Darwin on 31 December for a flight to Melbourne, then fly to Canberra on January 16. Rosalie and husband D were planning a holiday on their own to India. This letter comments on a previous recent cyclone (Selma) *the cyclone came within 56 km of Darwin ... the rain came down in torrents for a couple of days ... people in the Mindil Beach caravan park took their gear up to the High School for 24 hours...will send your Christmas gifts with the kids. L and T got their new bikes yesterday –all bright and shining.*

Two days later Rosalie sent another letter to her parents – *the kids will be pleased to have some parcels at Christmas ... our neighbor...is going to look after the cats while we are away... D. has begun painting again – bathroom & kitchen --- we have our old Christmas tree up again --- we gave it a new lease of life with orange satin balls.*

The next communication is a telegram sent on 28 December 1974 from Darwin – ALL WELL CHILDREN ARRIVING MELB SOON NOTIFY JACOBS – ROSALIE.

There followed a letter to her parents dated Friday December 27, 1974 in which she updates them on family circumstances, *we are living at the High School ... food is plentiful... compared with others our house wasn't so bad... I don't know that it matters. We have our lives without a scratch... I have been going to the house to collect bits & pieces & feed the cats. B knows what might have to be done with them but please be optimistic with L and T. .. the children will tell you about it – our Christmas Night.*

Identification tags sent on the children follow along with Ansett Airline tickets. Rosalie updates her parents and the children with what they are doing on 3 January 1975. *Whereas the town area is fearfully busy with people and traffic, the northern suburbs are grey, dead and silent except for the occasional scraping of iron – a sound we will never forget. The houses in many cases are just not there...I have saved many more things than we first thought we would.*

A further letter from Rosalie dated 8 January 1975 ... *stamps are not sold at the moment as postage is free ... L. I have saved Clown Face and some of your toys. Our house is one of 1500 to be repaired...these cats have adapted very well and are being fed from the High School kitchen. They get barramundi and porterhouse steak.*

Correspondence dated 14 January 1975 - *Our roof is going on & the navy is clearing the yard on Thursday ... horrible weekend with 6 ½ " in 48 hours. The rain poured into the house & we spent hours bailing it out.*

The letter dated 3 February 1975 announced that *the electricity was connected on Saturday...the fridges work, only on defrost! ...our insurance cheque arrived, 50% of contents...house written off. We began back at work today --- emergency centre work.*

By 22 February 1975, *the house is looking quite livable.. I am just wiping the walls to rid them of surplus dirt and fungus .. we are buying a new fridge .. have to buy a new iron... D has been busy completing the fly-wiring of the house & looking at the fans (a worthless task) .. still no phone connected ...*

The final letter dated 5 March 1975 commented that *it was good to have the children home. T. was upset for a day or so...B started music lessons & was at the orthodontist on Tuesday...T and L. love Parap Primary at Ludmilla.*

Cyclone Bloody Tracy

Kaye Aldenhoven

Beautiful Malanda Falls on Christmas day 1974. The boys were swimming in the clear water, Robert was rebuilding our breakfast fire, ready for Christmas dinner. Our dog was alert, watching the swimmers and the family arriving, parking next to ours. Our car was chock a block, even with five of us out, oh and the hairy one, Amanda Nambidjinba.

The other family had several men and teenaged boys, who leapt into the water energetically.

Inevitably they chatted to Michael, Stuart and Brett, and inevitably asked where they had come from.

Darwin they replied firmly, *But we don't have any house yet.*

Sounds like no-one has a house in Darwin today.

We laughed at his joke.

Earnestly, anxiously he scanned our faces.

I'm sorry. You haven't heard about the cyclone, he said.

Inevitably we shook our heads, quelling our fear.

The ABC said 90% of Darwin has been destroyed. Many people have been killed.

Michael screamed.

No! No! Not my Trixie. Will Trixie be dead? Will she?

The car radio was still murmuring. I heard the ABC news music strike up.

Come and listen.

The cultured ABC voice began.

...at midnight the cyclone struck. Ninety percent of all houses have been destroyed. Oh, said the announcer. That can't be true?

Michael screamed again, piercing us. The radio was switched off.

Come and have a beer with us.

I sat by their Christmas lunch, silent, patting Michael, telling him his cat would be all right because it wasn't really in Darwin. It was way out at Berrimah at Fred Gray's. Safe. Amanda was squeezed between Stuart and Brett, knowing as dogs do, that they were very distressed.

Robert sipped his beer, standing with our generous neighbour, but he too was silent.

We didn't know what to say or do. Losing everything we owned, stored in Grace Bros at Winnelie, was not an event we had anticipated. We packed up our gear later, and began a long drive to Adelaide, to my parents, where there were beds for us.

We were careful with our money. Did I have a job? Did Robert have a job? Where could we live? What had happened to our Darwin friends? We had sent a pig to them for their Christmas pig on a spit. Did it blow away? Our boat was in their Nightcliff backyard, under the mango tree. Had it blown away? Were they still alive?

There was no phone coverage. ABC was our only source of news. They began to list the names of survivors in newspapers, and I scanned them. Found some. These were names of people evacuated so predominately women and children at first.

All day we drove, sleeping in the car or next to it. I also drove at night until I was exhausted. I spotted a phone in Blue Mountains, night time and it had a light, so I phoned Mum to warn we would arrive in a day or two. Roma cried with relief. They had not been sure we'd gone to Queensland.

By the end of January I'd been told to report for duty at Gillen Primary School in Alice Springs NT, my old position. We had no house, but a friend of Robert said we could live in one of his flats if I looked after his tenants. Robert could do the maintenance.

Three energetic boys, a gambolling labrador dog and Robert and me in a two-room flat – one bedroom where most of us slept.

Every morning Amanda Nambidjinba whined to be let out. Every morning, the owner of the motel shouted at her to get out of his pool. She'd come home smiling and shake herself dry on the dining room floor.

At school we had classes of 50+, sitting on the floor in corridors. One lunchtime a desert whirly-whirley whipped through the playground and cyclone-traumatised students screamed in terror.

We continued to try to contact Fred Gray about Michael's cat. Still no phone lines. In February Robert had to report to his boss in Darwin. He flew, slept on the ship Patris, returned. Michael sat on the rails of the bridge over the River Todd in Alice Springs, waiting, waiting. At dusk, he spotted Robert, carrying two pieces of luggage.

I'll help you, Dad.

Thanks. Take this one. It's not so heavy. As Michael bent, he heard a meow. Bloody Hell! Now we had two adults, three boisterous boys, a swimming labrador dog and a cat in our tiny flat.

On ANZAC day, 4 months later, our belongings arrived back to Alice Springs from Darwin. They had sat in an unroofed warehouse, for 4 months of continuous tropical rain. Books, paintings, clothes, teddy bears, you name it. Stinking, rotted, infested with creepy crawlies. My carved wooden totem figure housed termites.

Items were missing – my jewellery, my great-grandmother's gold bamboo bracelet, my husband's two rifles. Looted.

Every payday, government payday fortnightly, we went to buy shoes and clothes. Fives pairs of Adidas sports shoes took one whole pay. As the weather cooled into winter:

five sleeping bags, five jumpers, five tracksuits, ten pairs of warm socks.

In Adelaide, Mum knitted furiously, woollen beanies for all of us. Thanks Nanna. We were getting chilblains on our ears.

By October we were allocated a three-bedroom house. No pool, so Amanda Nambidjinba was disappointed.

Cyclone Tracy – A Story of Legends

by Gerry Kenny

Talking of legends of Cyclone Tracy, Roy 'The Boy' Graetz, was a Legend! People were starving, needed feeding, which swung Roy into immediate action! Being a longtime Darwinite, he was a Father, Grandfather, Master Plasterer, fearless Wanderers Football Club Captain and Coach, and Waratahs premiership player.

Before coming to Darwin he was the winner of the annual Adelaide to Barossa Valley Bicycle race. He was, 'a real jack of all plaster and allied concrete trades and a very good bush cook. He was known locally as the Bar Cummings 'look alike' and worst still for him, he often got called 'Bob Hawke', when travelling down south.

He was seen just days after Cyclone Tracy in 1974, 'in his makeshift kitchen' at Darwin High School, 50 years ago. Here he was a volunteer Head Cook, cooking for +2000 sittings at a time, while feeding the needy who were starving Cyclone Tracy survivors. Without power or gas, he cooked meals under very trying conditions, initially using salvaged cypress pine from his own cyclone destroyed house for firewood, to cook the food. Remember there was no power and water after the Cyclone.

Roy was ably assisted by his son Trevor as 'volunteer aid worker and kitchen hand' chopping onions peeling spuds, cleaning up after meals and collecting firewood from the street.

While the authorities were advocating demolishing houses to make way for 'green space', the town folk needed immediate help in the form of food to eat. The father and son Graetz Boys, simply stepped up to the plate and answered the call.

FINDING TEETH AMONGST THE RUBBLE

When Cyclone Tracy visited Darwin, our family was having Christmas in Carnarvon WA. My husband Digger worked for the Bureau of Meteorology so he was recalled and flew back on a RAAF flight.

When the clean up by the Navy was scheduled for our house, Digger helped the Navy personnel. They kept on finding teeth in the rubble and mud and became worried. Digger had to explain to them that he had not long been discharged from the Navy. He was a Dental Technician and was going to set up a business in Darwin. One aspect of this business was repairing and making false teeth. Prior to Christmas, he had received his order of hundreds of teeth in various shades of white. The Navy boys were relieved.

EARLY NT TEACHERS Ruth Sheridan

Mary Ann (Polly/Pollie) Cann was born circa 1907. Polly Cann was one of the children at her school who knitted socks for the Red Cross Appeal for soldiers. Her name appears in the *Northern Miner* (Charters Towers, Qld.), Saturday 13 January 1934, page 2 thus: 'Miss Polly Cann, Cairns State school, who has been spending a South Sea holiday, will arrive here on Monday on a visit to her mother, Mrs. Cann.'

The *Townsville Daily Bulletin* (Qld.), Saturday 3 July 1937, page 8 announces that 'Miss P. Cann, of the Queensland Education Department, passed through on the *Merkur* on transfer to Darwin, where she has been loaned to the Federal Government.' The electoral roll of 1937 records her as a schoolteacher living at the Don Hotel Darwin.

Her marriage is announced in the *Telegraph* (Brisbane), Monday 15 July 1940, page 7 thus: DARWIN MARRIAGE — Darwin, July 14: Mr. Tom Scanlan, manager of the Commonwealth Savings Bank, and Mary Ann Cann, schoolteacher, of Darwin, were married here on Saturday.' Further information about the wedding is given in the *Townsville Daily Bulletin* (Qld.), Thursday 25 July 1940, page 6: 'SCANLAN— CANN. A wedding of particular interest to a large circle of friends in the Eastern States and New Guinea was solemnised at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church, Darwin on Saturday, 13th July, by the Rev. Father Henschke. The contracting parties were Mary (Pollie), only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Cann, Coorparoo. Brisbane (formerly of Charters Towers), and Thomas B. Scanlan, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Scanlan, Kelvin Grove. Brisbane. Mr. F. J. King escorted the bride, who was attended by her cousin, Mrs. J. Friebe. Mr. Graham Morris ably carried out the duties of best man. Mr. J. Friebe presided at the organ, and during the signing of the register Mrs J. E. Fawcett sang 'Ave Maria' with violin obligato by Mr. P. Brennan. After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. King, 11 Myilly Point, and following the usual toasts a buffet high tea was served to more than 50 guests. Mr. and Mrs. T. Scanlan are at present residing at Hotel Darwin, pending completion of the new Commonwealth Bank premises of which institution Mr. Scanlan is branch manager.'

Mary Ann (Pollie) Scanlan, late of East Roseville, died aged 105 on 10 June 2012 (the grave has date of death 8 June). Her death notice was published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* dated 13 June 2012.

Ryerson Index. Trove. Findagrave.



Constance Amy Corfield was born on 8 February 1888 Woollahra NSW to parents William Corfield and Alice Bridge.

She was appointed as a missionary teacher to the newly created Mission Station on Goulburn Island (Arnhem Land) in 1916 by the Department of Overseas Missions of the Methodist Church. She was the first white woman on the Island when she arrived on 5 September 1916. She worked on Goulburn Island until 1920 when she returned to Sydney. (Photo cropped from copy of one believed to have been taken by Ted Ryko).

'Miss Amy Corfield had received a school appointment at Rotuma, but an accident will prevent her returning with her sister (Mrs. Waterhouse).' *Australian Christian Commonwealth* (SA), Friday 24 June 1921, page 10.

'Miss Amy Corfield, of the Fiji Methodist Mission, has recovered from her recent accident, and left by the *Levuka* for Rotuma, on June 18.' *Sydney Morning Herald*, Saturday 25 June 1921, page 7.

She died on 31 January 1968.

Library & Archives NT

Trove

GSNT PR 6017

Louisa Gladys Cross was born on 7 August 1884 at North Fitzroy Victoria. She was educated at Essendon State School and Blinkbonnie Ladies College. She went to Melbourne University to prepare for a teaching career. She taught for 18 years despite having difficulties with her throat from time to time.

The Victorian Church Missionary Society accepted her as a missionary to work with Aboriginals on 17 March 1919. She travelled to the Roper River Mission NT with Mrs H E Warren. She spent the next 17 years teaching at the Roper River Mission, Emerald River Mission and Groote Eylandt. She accompanied the first (CMS) mission party to Groote Eylandt in 1924. She started a troop of Girl Guides there. She returned to Groote Eylandt for only one more year in 1935 owing to ill health and then returned to Melbourne on 28 December 1936.

The Argus (Melbourne, Vic: 1848 - 1957) dated Saturday 1 March 1941, page 4 announced her marriage: MORTENSEN-CROSS. On February 23, at Holy Bainbridge Charles Erland Henry, of Port Melbourne to Louisa Gladys, eldest daughter of the late William and Louisa Cross of Regent (formerly of CMS Groote Eylandt NT).

Louisa Gladys Mortensen died on 22 July 1973 aged 88 at Weerona Salvation Army Hospital East Malvern. *The Age* death notice was published on 24 July 1973.



Arthur Diedrich Edwardes was born on 24 May 1905 in Adelaide to parents Henry Edmund Arthur Edwardes and Maria Mahnke. He was a teacher at Keith South Australia in 1928 and head teacher at Cockburn in 1930. He married Rona Clavering Tucknell on 9 January 1932.

Hilda Tuxworth in her book *Tennant Creek yesterday and today* notes that Mr A. D. Edwardes was a teacher at Tennant Creek School from 1939 to 1941.

The Chronicle dated 19 February 1942 in its segment entitled About Tennant Creek reported that Edwardes 'formerly of Port Victoria came down to join the AIF from Tennant Creek where for the last three years he has been in charge of the school.'

Edwardes enlisted in the CMF in 1942. By 1943, the electoral roll lists him as a teacher living at 108 Sydney St, Glenunga, South Australia. He died on 24 September 1970. There is a gravestone for him in Port Victoria Cemetery beside that of his parents. He was buried at Centennial Park.

The South Australian Museum holds his collection of Shipping Photographs.

Mrs Harriet Isabel Herkes (nee Richardson) was born on 21 January 1890 at Penrice near Angaston South Australia. She was educated at Adelaide University and taught there for several years.

In Darwin she lived with her parents at the 2 ½ mile Workshop at Parap. She married Robert Herkes on 4 August 1920. A Gallipoli veteran, he worked at Burnside Station, Brock's Creek as the manager. He died from malaria in 1921.

Mrs Herkes taught at Darwin Public School from 1918 – 1920 and Parap School from 1922 to 1926. She resigned from the Education Department in August 1926. She married again to William John Gough on 14 August 1926 at Christ Church, Darwin. On 1 July 1927 she gave birth to a daughter.

When interviewed by a journalist from *The Register* newspaper in Adelaide some months after returning there, these were some of her comments:

'To me, the worst feature has been the difficulty in getting to and fro to the southern portion of Australia. My husband and I motored down upon the present occasion, and it was a wonderful trip. Previously, I have been obliged to take the steamer; and that eastern coast of Queensland seems to delight in letting loose cyclonic storms just when boats are en route.

Speaking from the teacher's standpoint, Mrs. Gough warmly praised the Chinese scholars. 'They were a joy to instruct,' she said enthusiastically. 'So attentive and clever, and so responsive to kindness. When I was leaving, every Chinese pupil brought me a farewell gift. I got to know many of the parents, and they were a fine type of Cantonese. Their children were beautifully clean and

well dressed. The latter had plenty of schooling, for, in addition to the Government tuition, they went at night to a Chinese school to master their native tongue. ...

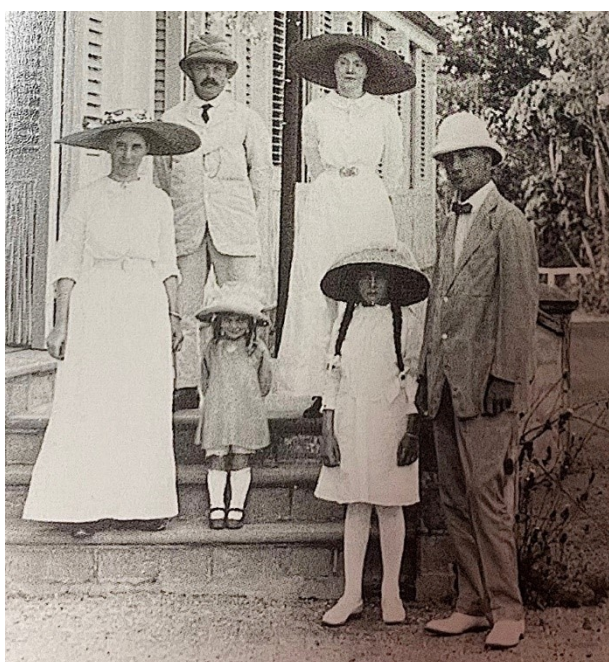
We had a conglomeration of colours in our own school, with whites, Chinese, Greeks, and others. The hours were selected to avoid undue heat and allow a period for rest.' *Register* (Adelaide, SA 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 26 October 1926, page 10.

In 1950, she sought a divorce from W. J. Gough, for adultery with Ada Gladys Mundy.

She died on 2 March 1977 and was buried in Adelaide.

She is commemorated in Herkes Rd, Girraween. According to NT Place Names: 'Isabel Herkes (nee Richardson), a Teacher first appointed in the Northern Territory in January 1918. Mrs Herkes was considered by the Education Inspectors in 1924 to be "...the best of the female teachers in the NT".

Trove. Australian Cemeteries Index



Elsie Rosaline Masson was born in Melbourne Victoria in 1891 to parents David Orme Masson, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Melbourne and Mary Struthers. She was governess to the children of Administrator Gilruth in 1913. The photo shows her in the back row.

She left the Territory in 1914 and returned to Melbourne. In 1915 she published *An Untamed Territory: The Northern Territory Of Australia*. The 1919 electoral roll has her as a nurse at Melbourne Hospital. However, in the same year she married (6 March) Bronislaw Kaspar Malinowski, a friend of Baldwin Spencer.

The couple arrived in London on 23 April 1920. Bronislaw became successively a Lecturer, Reader, and Professor at the London School of Economics. Between 1927 and 1942, he held the Chair of Social Anthropology. Elsie and her husband travelled extensively, and their three daughters were all born in different countries.

Elsie died on 18 September 1935, having been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1928.

Malinowski remarried Valetta Anna Swan.

Mickey Dewar / Northern Territory Dictionary of Biography
Volume 3

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Masson-698>



Ruth Pech, from Appila South Australia, was a governess for Mrs Albrecht at Hermannsburg Mission from 1935. She supervised the children's correspondence lessons. The children were Helene (9), Theodor (6) and Paul (3). She also helped Pastor Albrecht with office work and manned the two-way radio.

In 1942 she was living at Appila South Australia. In May of that year, she took up the position of head teacher at Lights Pass Lutheran School. She married Albert Fehlberg (RAAF) at Pine Creek in 1945.

Ruth Fehlberg died at Royal Adelaide Hospital on 18 December 2008. She lived in Eden Hills in her later years and was a great correspondent with many letters published in the *Hills & Valley Messenger*. Husband Albert predeceased her, dying on 4 November 2000 at Flinders Private Hospital aged 82.

Minnie Smith was a schoolteacher who came from Brisbane as governess for the Byrnes children on Burnside Station. In 1901 Miss Minnie Smith, (writes a Brock's Creek correspondent) who since her arrival in Brock's Creek has made herself very popular, was a passenger for Palmerston on last Saturday's train. Ill-health was the cause of her visit ... and it is with extreme regret that Brock's Creek learns that the doctor has ordered her south. She was a travelling teacher after Catherine Harrison.

She married Charles Osborne on 10 December 1907. He worked for the railway at Emungalan. Their children were Laurie Jean and Phyllis Joyce who were pupil teachers later in life. Minnie was unhappy with their schooling at the local school, so as she was a trained teacher, she applied to teach them at home, and this was accepted.

Trove.

A photograph of a handwritten note on aged, yellowed paper. The text is written in cursive ink and reads: "I. Remain, Sir, Yours Respectfully Nance L. Laylor (H.T.)". The initials "H.T." are enclosed in parentheses.

Nance Letchford Taylor was born on 18 November 1905 to parents Albertus Martin Taylor and Mary Alice Tregonning.

She arrived in the Northern Territory by train in 1932. *The Mail* dated 22 April 1933 records: Miss Nance Letchford Taylor of the Pennington School was appointed by the Federal Minister of the Interior today to teach white and half-caste children of

Alice Springs. She will have to stay at Alice Springs for three years before [being eligible for] three months furlough.

She taught at Alice Springs as the third schoolteacher in the town and the second teacher at Hartley St School until 1936. She applied to extend her time teaching in Alice Springs but despite clear reasons outlined in correspondence, this was denied. (see National Archives of Australia).

She married Clarence Tom Raymond Barrett on 29 December 1936 at St Agnes Church Grange South Australia. She was a housewife and mother between 1936 and 1949. Then she taught at School of the Air from 1949 to 1965. She was appointed School of the Air Relief Teacher from 1950-1958 and Principal from 1958-1964 when she retired. She was awarded an MBE in 1966

She died in Adelaide on 18 May 1985. She was buried in Alice Springs Memorial Cemetery, Barrett Drive, Alice Springs.

'Clarence Raymond (Tom) Barrett (1899-1954) came to Alice Springs as a linesman with the PMG in 1925. Ill health forced him to become a truck driver - mechanic and later an electrical linesman. Tom and Nancy (a teacher) his wife since 1936 were keen golfers who enjoyed the original course off Undoolya Road. During WWII, the area off Undoolya Road was used as a transit camp for personnel on their way to Darwin.'

Trove. GSNT PR385. NAA ID: 430047 NT Place Names.



Lilian Annie (nee Bowes) Ward was born at Freeling South Australia on 26 June 1873 to parents James Turnbull Bowes and Mary Jane Judd. Her teaching career began as a Pupil Teacher at Minlaton in 1889 and she was promoted to the same school in 1890. In 1891 she was promoted as a Pupil Teacher 3rd Class at Stirling East. In 1894 she was an Acting Assistant teacher at Pt Augusta. Then in 1897 and 1899 she was an Acting Assistant teacher at Yorketown.

On 1 February 1900 she married Arthur Allen Ward at the residence of Thomas Morris, Port Darwin NT. The 1901 NT Census lists her as 26 years of age, married, living in Palmerston. Children born to the couple were: Arthur Kenneth (1900), Kathleen Elise (1903), Gwenyth (1905) and Ronald Owen (1908).

Mrs Ward was appointed to Darwin Public School on 13 January 1920 and took over some remote locations such as Emungalan in September 1922.

In 1925 her husband, a member of the telegraph office staff was transferred to Powell's Creek. Mrs Ward was teaching at the Compound School.

She died at Eastwood South Australia on 10 August 1955. She was buried at Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide Section General D, Path 4, Site 324.

1901 NT Census. NAA ID: 1609956

THE ANNUAL HISTORY COLLOQUIUM 2024

Each year Charles Darwin University in partnership with, the Professional Historians' Association (NT), and Library & Archives NT presents a History Colloquium, which consists of talks about Northern Territory History. Often the content is part of the presenter's research for a PhD and thus of a high academic standard, but the talks are very accessible to the lay person.

This year I learnt from Dr Fiona Early of the Aviation Historical Society of the NT, in her talk entitled Dusting off the wings, ways to choose, conserve and manage items in their museum.

Weida Chen, a CDU PhD candidate, spoke of Japanese internees in the NT during WWII. One of our members was able to furnish some more details for him of a Japanese and Indigenous family.

Maisie Austin, a further CDU PhD candidate, spoke of Parap Camp 118, the history of indigenous people who lived there from the 1940s to 1960s. She spoke from experience of the conditions under which they lived and how they rose above this to make significant contributions to NT society, particularly in the sporting arena.

Paige Taylor from MAGNT spoke on Tattered toys: Childhood memories of Cyclone Tracy, sharing some of the displays and stories in the new Cyclone Tracy Exhibit. Jared Archibald, also of MAGNT, outlined the extent of losses in Darwin Harbour. Of interest, was the inability to pronounce death when a body was missing. Dr Steve Farram shared some of the music created following Tracy.

Dr Wendy Beresford-Manning spoke about the difficulties in finding details of the work of the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Sisters. This was also a problem for our researchers when the GSNT wanted to acknowledge them as teachers.

Dr Silvano Jung's talk was most interesting, covering the archeology of the site where the NT Art Gallery is currently being built. Items discovered included much that was rubbish, having been used as fill in further building. Rubbish to some, but treasures to an archeologist.

Dr Emily Miller spoke on the ethnoarcheology of fibre objects in Western Arnhemland. Although woven baskets were not preserved, evidence of their use was found in rock art.

The last talk was called Licence to Kill: Massacre men of Northern Australia by Dr Robyn Smith. She covered the perpetrators of frontier violence across northern Australia and how they have been commemorated in place names in the NT.

Please consider attending future colloquia, you never know what you might learn that is relevant to your own family history research.

“Sunnyside” Armatree, Gilgandra Shire, New South Wales, Australia

"Sunnyside" is a privately owned cemetery located on the northern side of the Castlereagh Highway some 5km from Armatree north of Gilgandra in New South Wales Central West. The cemetery is visible from the highway. This small private cemetery contains eight marked graves surrounded by wrought iron enclosures that protect them from live stock. It contains burials dating from 1885 to 1930. The property is privately owned and maintained. Access to the cemetery is available only with permission from the landholder.

Jane *Richardson* Harvey

Birth

4 Jul 1830 Balquhidder, Stirling, Scotland

Death

10 Jan 1917 (aged 86) New South Wales, Australia

Burial Armatree Sunnyside Cemetery

Fanny *Harvey* Jones

Birth Sep 1860

Death

31 Mar 1909 (aged 48) New South Wales, Australia

Burial Armatree Sunnyside Cemetery

Nancy Clark

Birth 1849

Death 7 Apr 1895 (aged 45–46) New South Wales, Australia

Burial Armatree Sunnyside Cemetery

Gordon Joseph Barry

Birth 1925

Innisfail, Cassowary Coast Region, Queensland, Australia

Death 17 Jan 1955 (aged 29–30)

Innisfail, Cassowary Coast Region, Queensland, Australia

Burial Armatree Sunnyside Cemetery

Loco Man Killed on Mourilyan Tramline

Innisfail Jan 17 1955

A railway fireman name Gordon Barry, aged 27, married with one child, lost his life today in an accident on the 2 foot gauge Mourilyan Harbour line.

An engine, driven by Gordon Serrow, with Barry as fireman, was proceeding to the harbour at about 9.30 this morning, hauling six trucks loaded with sugar.

When about a quarter of a mile out from Mourilyan township the engine became derailed. As it approached a set of points the men decided to jump.

Serrow jumped clear and escaped injury, but the tender fell on Barry and he was killed instantly.

Serrow is in the Innisfail Hospital suffering from shock.

Parents: Joseph George Barry and Florence Louisa Mohr

Inscription

Sacred to the memory of our dearly beloved son and brother

Mrs Jane Harvey, relict of the late Mr Wm, Harvey, pastoralist of Sunny Side, Armatree, died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs John Ferguson, at *Denmy*, on Tuesday of last week. The deceased lady was one of the first white women in the Coonamble district, having arrived there as far back as 1840. There were four children - Mrs John. Jones and Mrs T. Jones (both - of whom are dead), Mrs John Ferguson, of *Denmy*, and Mrs P. Ferguson, of Gular. Mrs Harvey was in her 87th year. She was a most estimable woman and her many kind acts during her long and useful life endeared her to a host of friends who deeply regret her death and sympathise with her relatives. The remains were interred at Armatree on Wednesday and were followed to their last resting place by a large number of relatives, friends and acquaintances.



Jane Harvey of “Sunnyside” Memorial Cemetery

Between 1885 to 1930 eight people were buried,
all close to Jane Harvey.

She died in 1917 aged 87 years.

Her obituary stated,

“No Sundowner ever left ‘Sunnyside’ empty handed.”

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>	<i>Age</i>
Ellen Edith Jones	9-4-1885	1 year & 8 months
Linda Jane Jones	25-1-1889	2 years & 11 months
		<i>Children of John & Fanny Jones.</i>
Nancy Clark	7-4-1895	46 years
		<i>Maid/ Friend to Jane Harvey.</i>
James Richardson	26-3-1900	77 years
		<i>Brother of Jane Harvey.</i>
James Victor Jones	22-5-1907	20 years
Fanny Jones <i>nee Harvey</i>	31-3-1909	49 years & 7 months
		<i>Daughter of Jane Harvey.</i>
Jane Harvey	10-1-1917	87 years
		<i>Owner of Sunnyside.</i>
John Jones	23-8-1930	57 years
		<i>Of Bullagreen Station, husband of Fanny Jones.</i>



The Genealogical Society of the Northern Territory Inc.

Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024.

The Genealogical Society has now been accommodated at Harry's Place in Tiwi for almost two years and as we grow accustomed to our new surroundings, like a pair of new shoes we are now starting to feel comfortable. We are remembering where files are now kept, rather than having to search for them.

This has allowed us to be more involved in promotional and marketing activities.

- In July 2023 Julie Andrew made a presentation of Family History Awards at the Darwin Show.
- Weekly research workshops were presented by Julie Schuller and Ione Jolly during Seniors' Month activities in August.
- An Information stall was provided at the Caladium Festival in November.
- 'Trove' workshops were also held during November.
- We embarked on advertising through the COTA (Council of the Aging) Information Network
- The society participated in the monthly History/Heritage talks on ABC Radio in February and May 2024.
- The Society was represented at the National Archives of Australia (NT) Consultative Forum in March and
- Provided an Information Stall at the Seniors' Expo in June 2024.

All of these activities were undertaken whilst maintaining normal operations. During the period under review

- we handled 1056 visits from members of the public;
- attended to 557 research inquiries from both local and interstate;
- had nine researchers
- provide 837 hours of research assistance

Topics ranged from persons wishing to establish Indigenous status to questions of an historical nature about the life their ancestor might have lived in the Territory including rice farming, Cyclone Tracy, World War II, Chinese, Aboriginal and Russian lifestyles, early NT Teachers, peanut farmers, Gulf crabbers, life at the Parap Camp and at the Police Paddock.

While this was happening, we changed our IT Services provider. Our new "go to" service provider is Territory Technology Solutions, who to date are providing a very good service, and at the right price.

Our Family History Library is appreciative of the accommodation grant and continued support received from the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities.

Without this grant and support we would not be able to reconnect past and present Northern Territory Families.

We are also indebted to the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade through the Community Benefit Fund (CBF) for the provision of grants that enabled us to purchase much needed library equipment. The CBF receives funds from a levy on electronic gaming machines in licenced premises. Major community grants provide funding for services, leisure activities and opportunities for Territorians.

We were able to obtain a Seniors' Grant to assist us with the activities offered for Seniors' Month in August 2023, and thank the Hon Luke Gosling OAM, MP for putting us forward as an eligible organisation to apply for the Federal Government's Volunteer Grant to support our efforts in the community. We were also the recipients of a Nightcliff Community Enterprises (Bendigo Bank) grant that enabled us to replace aging and non-functioning computer screens. We thank Jeff Watson, Manager of the Nightcliff branch of Bendigo Bank for inviting us to participate in this scheme. The backbone of our society is our volunteers. GSNT has no paid staff and relies heavily on our volunteers, who do our research, our cleaning and staff our Library all day Mondays and Tuesdays, and on Wednesday evenings. We are deeply indebted to Julie Andrew, Ruth Sheridan, Julie Schuller, Pat King, Gail Macgregor, Joan Angeles, Leticia Charrington, Marcia Charrington, Peter and Theresa Jolly and Lone Jolly.

Dianne Tessmann is the Editor of Progenitor and Jeanice Levez is our Web Master. Both Dianne and Jeanice now live in Queensland, so we are very lucky to have such dedicated and talented members. Meanwhile Burniece Cross, despite health issues continues to provide us with a steady stream of craft articles that are readily snapped up by both members and visitors.

Where would we be without Eddie Webber and Janet Leather who do a thorough clean and dust of our premises every fortnight, unseen and unheralded?; their efforts are very much appreciated and we are deeply indebted to them.

Our Pioneer Register continues to grow thanks to the persistent and dedicated work of Julie Schuller, Ruth Sheridan, Gail Macgregor and June Tomlinson. Coordinating all aspects of our work, as well as managing our volunteers and dealing with complex inquiries is June Tomlinson our long serving secretary. June has been at the helm of the Society for more than 40 years, guiding it through good times and bad. We would be lost without her expertise and guidance.

We thank our Patron, the Hon Austin Asche AC, KC, who despite health issues, continues to maintain a keen interest in our operations.

In summary, the 2023-2024 year has been one of successful genealogical study and family history research.

Judy Boland

President

04 August 2024

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY INC

MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 30 November 2024 commencing 1.35pm in the GSNT Library

PRESENT

June Tomlinson, Neville Jones, Ron Strachan, Julie Andrew, Gail Macgregor, Ruth Sheridan, Judy Boland, Bob Cowling, Ruth Sheridan, Pat King, Julian Schuller, Alphonse Shields, Leticia Charrington, Marcia Charrington, Lone Jolly, Theresa Jolly, Julie Danvers, Jenny Armour

APOLOGIES

Burniece Cross, Michael Bratchell

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM 21 October 2023

Moved Pat King, seconded Julian Schuller

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

CORRESPONDENCE PERTAINING TO AGM

None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Moved Judy Boland, seconded June Tomlinson

TREASURER'S REPORT

Moved Bob Cowling, seconded June Tomlinson

DECLARATION THAT ALL COMMITTEE POSITIONS BE DECLARED VACANT

APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER TO CONDUCT A BALLOT FOR COMMITTEE POSITIONS FOR 2024/2025 FINANCIAL YEAR

Neville Jones appointed.

GSNT COMMITTEE POSITIONS 2024/2025 YEAR

There was only one nomination for each of the following positions:

PRESIDENT

Judy Boland

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Julian Schuller

VICE PRESIDENT

Pat King

TREASURER

Patsy Hickey

SECRETARY/PUBLIC OFFICER

June Tomlinson

COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Minute Secretary

Neville Jones

Membership Co-ordinator

Julie Andrew

Events Co-ordinator

Alphonso Shields

OTHER POSITIONS

FUND-RAISING CO-ORDINATOR

Vacant

LIBRARIAN/RESEARCH OFFICER

Ruth Sheridan

EDITOR PROGENITOR

Dianne Tessmann

GSNT WEBMASTER

Jeanice Levez **AUDITOR**

Vacant

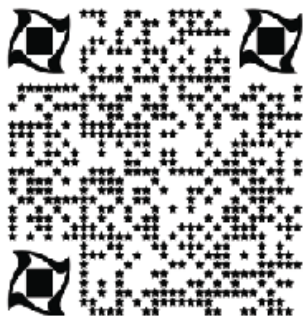
Meeting closed 1.55pm.



BRISBANE | 3-Day Conference

21 - 24 March 2025

Purchase your raffle tickets online for your chance to WIN - 18 amazing prizes!



ONLINE RAFFLE

18 Prizes to WIN!

Use the QR CODE to view the amazing prizes available to win on each day of the Conference 2025.

3 DAYS OF PRIZES - BUY A RAFFLE TICKET FOR EACH DAYS MULTI-DRAW

ONE (1) ticket - \$5 | THREE (3) tickets - \$10 | SEVEN (7) tickets - \$20 | TWENTY (20) tickets - \$50

[One multi-draw raffle will be conducted each day of the conference. Winners do not need to be present at the conference to claim prizes.]

www.connections2025.org.au/raffle



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND Inc
Enriching family history



17th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry & 5th Queensland History State Conference - Hosted by Genealogical Society of Qld Inc.