



## **Historical Society of the Northern Territory**

**Patron:** The Hon Austin Asche AC

### **NEWSLETTER July 2020**

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

Secretary: Wendy Asche; Treasurer: Lyn Reid; others - Brian Reid, Alan Powell, Judy Boland, Ian Anderson, Derek Pugh, Rosemary Chalmers, Robyn Smith and Clayton Frederickson

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

### **. Saturday 11 July at 4.30pm - Darwin Aviation Heritage Centre Museum**

#### **- Come fly with Us -**

The Australia Day Council NT and City of Darwin invite you to a special evening at the Darwin Aviation Museum. Join us and be taken on a journey with the 2020 NT Australian of the Year, Dr Geoffrey Thompson.

In 1974, when Cyclone Tracy devastated Darwin, Dr Thompson was responsible for overseeing the RAAF effort to evacuate the city. During the days that followed, and with many sleepless nights, he helped assess, treat and evacuate severely injured citizens of Darwin – despite having lost his own home and possessions.

\$15 Tickets to this event include

- Entry into the iconic Museum
- Alcoholic/Non-Alcoholic beverage upon arrival
- Canapes
- Cash bar

### **This Sunday 12 July - History House book sale - 2pm-4pm**

Ever wondered what books we publish and sell? We have a great range of topics on Territory history to suit everyone's interests. There will be specials and some of our much older books will be going cheap. (cash only) Come along to History House for a cuppa & cake and a chat.

We are located in Charlton Court which is on the corner of Bishop Street. Pink Middis building is on the corner. Drive into Charlton Court and turn right at the first street. We are located at the end of the court.

### **On Now - Chinese Portraits Exhibition at the Northern Territory Library**

The Chinese community played a pivotal role in the development of the Territory since the 1870s. In collaboration with the Chung Wah Society and the Chinese Museum, the Northern Territory Library is hosting the Chinese Portraits Exhibition, featuring beautiful portraits and family images, as a way to honour and celebrate the important contribution of the Chinese community living in the top end.

### **20 July to 1 August - Tunnel Vision Art Exhibition at the WW11 Oil Storage Tunnels - 9am to 1pm Monday to Friday**

Come and visit this unique WW11 sight and view and or buy some great art by local artists.

Entrance fee \$8.50 adult & \$5.50 child.

## **Saturday 25 July - Day Field Trip**

Because of the closures of our national parks these past few months, it has been decided to hold a day trip rather than our usual 3 day 4WD trip on the Darwin Show Day weekend.

It is proposed to visit Middle Arm archeological sites and the nearby Channel Island leprosarium site. A second day trip is being planned in a month's time to visit archeological sites around Cox Peninsula.

Our draft itinerary for the first outing is as follows:

Saturday 25 July - 8.30am meet at the Elizabeth River bridge carpark on the Channel Island Road.

- Drive to the Middle Arm site. The track does not require 4WD but a high clearance vehicle is needed.
- Park about 1km from the site and walk in on a level track. Spend a couple of hours exploring the site.
- Drive to the Channel Island carpark for lunch. You will need to bring your own lunch, drinks and chairs.
- For those who wish to do so, we take a short drive to the Channel Island leprosarium site and explore. The site has high spear grass, logs and trees lying around. You will need to be nimble and wear appropriate shoes and clothing.

If you are interested in coming along, please let us know by Friday 17 July.  
Ring Bev on 0417868827 or email [hsnt@iinet.net.au](mailto:hsnt@iinet.net.au)

## **Saturday 1 August – Parap Market - HSNT book stall**

Drop in and say hello to Janie who will be manning a stall and offering special prices off our books.

## **Friday 7 August at 6pm - Book Launch**

A new book published by the Historical Society *Sheer Hard Work and Plenty of Guts: The Farrar Family of the Northern Territory* by Lynette Derrick will be launched at the Palmerston Recreation Centre Community Room 2.

Most of the research for the book is derived from the author's mother Phyllis Uren nee Farrar which is based on her memories and research. Part 1 - Outlines the Farrar family association with the pastoral industry in the remote top end of the Territory from 1880-1942. Part 2 - Details the impact of WW2 in 1942 on Darwin and the Farrar family's evacuation to Ban Ban Springs Station, near Brocks Creek where they faced the war. The book contains 143 photos taken between late 1800's and 1950.

The book will be on sale for \$40 at the launch (cash only). If you are unable to make the launch, the book can be purchased from the Historical Society.

## **Saturday 31 October - History Colloquium**

Note this date in your diaries. The annual History Colloquium organised by the Professional Historians Association will be held at the NT Library. More information including the program will be provided at a later date.

## **Federation of Australian Historical Societies (FAHS)**

The FAHS has received a request from Emily Gallagher, a PhD student at the ANU, who writes as follows:

I am writing to ask if you are able to help circulate a call for materials and memories relating to growing up in Australia in the first half of the twentieth century (1901-1945) to your members. I am currently a PhD student at the Australian National University in Canberra and my research is a study of children's imaginations in Australia before the Second World War — a fact that means organisations like the FAHS is one of the best networks for me to reach out to Australia's local and family history community.

Very little has been written about the history of children's play in Australia pre-1950 and I am hoping that my research will be able to help provide insight into the lives and experiences of children in Australia in this period. I am especially interested in doll play, war play (particularly the reenactment of colonial and frontier violence), fairy and monster folklore (e.g. giants, ghosts, wild animals and evil fairies), collecting cultures (including the collecting of bird eggs, postcards, marbles and cigarette cards), memories of planes, ships and birds (e.g. Gould League of Bird Lovers). I also have a strong interest in juvenile writing clubs, school magazines and children's nature writing.

If you can help, Emily's contact details are:

Emily Gallagher, PhD Candidate of the School of History  
College of Arts and Social Sciences, Coombs Building (9), Australian National University,  
Canberra ACT 2601

Email address: [emily.gallagher@anu.edu.au](mailto:emily.gallagher@anu.edu.au)

## **Northern Territory History Grants**

Do you have a local history project that you would like to get off the ground? The NT History Grants open on 13 July.

The Northern Territory History Grants provides up to \$7,000 to support community and researchers undertaking original research about the Northern Territory history, with the aim to broaden community access and engagement with archival resources.

Check out the website from 13 July for this year's guidelines and application information.

Last year's guidelines can be found at

[https://nt.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/449338/nt-history-grants-guidelines-2019-20.pdf](https://nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/449338/nt-history-grants-guidelines-2019-20.pdf)