

April Meeting Cont.

Contributor: Connie Hamer

* Honour Boards and Rolls: New Farm Bowls Club WWI, Brunswick Street; Booroodabin Bowls Club, Newstead; CSR Company, Cutters Landing Gym, New Farm; Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Fortitude Valley; Brunswick Street Methodist Church, Merthyr Road Uniting Church, New Farm; Fortitude Valley State School, currently RSL South Eastern District, Oxlade Drive.

Indeed, you may ask yourself ... How familiar am I with these war memorials? Have I taken time to comprehend the information on and around these communal heirlooms? Are these and other war memorials adequately maintained and protected for future generations? As in the case of the Fortitude Valley State School honour board, are these memorials located where they may best be 'honoured'?



Fortitude Valley State School honour board

Amongst Robert's impressive list of Acknowledgements and Sources, a number invite considered examination. To illustrate: Virtual War Memorial

Australia, vwma.org.au, an online war memorial designed to commemorate all Australian service personnel, and Queensland Heritage Register, qhr.detsi.qld.gov.au, an online resource that lists places that have cultural heritage significance to the people of Queensland.

Most appropriately, sincerely and solemnly, Robert concluded his presentation, as we should this report ... with a reminder that history invites inquiry ... that there is a fine line between national pride and possible irrational patriotism ... that the values of respect, compassion and understanding may be nurtured through an empathetic and contextualised appreciation of past events ... "Lest we forget".

Watch the report [HERE](#).



New Farm State School war memorial

Community News

New Book: Dynes of Oxlade Drive

It may surprise New Farm residents to know that the suburb once hosted a full-on metal goods manufacturer which employed more than 80 people. The location was on the river side of Oxlade Drive adjacent to Sargent Street, and the business, Dyne & Co. (Pty) Limited, was established by William Henry Dyne in 1926.

The story is told by Lyn Dyne (pictured) in her new well-illustrated book, and begins with the dynamic Anna Dyne who migrated from London with her seven sons in 1865. Anna owned real estate in Yandina, Red Hill and Petrie Terrace, and even bought "The Settler", a stern-wheel paddle steamer which plied between Brisbane and Ipswich.

No wonder many of her sons prospered in a variety of 'hands-on' occupations, including William and Ernest who purchased adjoining lots in River Road (later Oxlade Drive) in 1910 and 1917 respectively. This spot became the core of the metal-works which was managed in its latter years until it closed in 1983 by Lyn's husband Ken who was a grandson of William Dyne.

Dyne & Co. made an amazing range of metal goods. It was

said that "Dynes had the best of machines and tradesmen." They produced components for the Sydney Harbour Bridge (from their NSW branch) and the Story Bridge. The ornate awning over the corner entrance to the McWhirters Building in the Valley is an example of their work.

Lyn, once a legal secretary, worked beside Ken in various metal goods' business partnerships for 19 years until 2017 when the business closed. Ken had continued operating with Dynes' plant and equipment throughout his working life for the company. He passed away in 2019 aged 85.

Well done to Lyn for putting together this valuable record, not just for the Dyne family, but also for the history of the locality. Its recent launch nicely marks a century since Dyne & Co. began in New Farm.



Lyn Dyne with a copy of her book
Photo: Maria Shaw

Meeting Photos

The presentation can be viewed online [HERE!](#)



Acknowledgements

As always, thanks go to our wonderful meeting volunteers as well as:



Grace Grace MP
Member for McConnell
(07) 3145 9100
Newsletter printing



Brisbane City Council
Use of the Ron Muir
Meeting Room,
New Farm Library



About the Society

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Committee Members:

Immediate Past President Desley Garnett,
Ben Pritchard, George Cowin, Judi Jabour and
Linda Whatman.

Membership Fee:

\$22 per calendar year or part thereof.

Add \$17 for posted newsletter.

Apply for or renew membership:

www.newfarmhistorical.org.au/membership/

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Meeting Photography:

Maria Shaw with supplementary images by
other contributors.

May Presentation

If these seven houses could talk... Notable New Farm houses

What's your favourite house in New Farm? Maybe Wynberg or Coronet Court? Too many from which to choose? Architect Emma and historian Gerard have come up with their seven choices, and they'd love to tell you their 'hows and whys' at the May meeting of the Society.

Emma asks, "What's it like living in this house, made of these materials, with this layout?"

Gerard asks, "Who were the people who lived there, why, and for how long?"

Their discussion will offer lots of interesting images of the seven dwellings. At the end of it, you might have your favourite, or maybe you'll still prefer Wynberg or Coronet Court!

Date: Saturday, May 23, 2:30pm

Location: Uniting Church Centre,
52 Merthyr Road, New Farm

Enquiries: 0437 280 104



"Edenglassie"
by Gladys Blundell

June Presentation

Coming up: Family history

How many of us want to research and write about our family history but don't know where to start? The good news is there is a large range of community and online resources at our fingertips - we just have to know where to look!

The June presentation will focus on researching family history with experts from the State Library, Oral History Queensland and the Genealogical Society of Queensland, as well as professional storyteller Sam Regi.

Our experts will discuss the genealogical resources available to you, and will stay to answer your questions in the courtyard during afternoon tea.



Sam Regi,
founder of
Talking Stories



YOU'RE INVITED TO A

MEMBERS' AFTERNOON TEA

Thursday 14 May 2026
2:30pm
Ron Muir Room
New Farm Library
135 Sydney Street, New Farm
Refreshments will be provided.
All welcome!

This is an opportunity to meet other members
over a cuppa. I hope to meet you there!

Robert Allen
President

RSVP to membership@newfarmhistorical.org.au
Text or leave message: 0417 190 675

President's Message



Welcome to another society newsletter, expertly put together by our editor Kate with the help of our star contributors.

Several of our members have been on the sick list lately and I'd like to send a special 'get well soon' message to our membership table volunteer Di and committee

member George. I also send condolences to our committee member Linda, whose mother Roslyn passed away recently.

Thank you for the positive feedback about last month's 'Silent Sentinels' presentation about our local war memorials, plaques and honour boards. It was great to see so many wearing sprigs of rosemary in memory of those who have served our country in time of war.

A reminder that you can watch more than 60 of our monthly presentations on our Vimeo channel at: [NFDHS](#).

What's your favourite home on the peninsula? Our next monthly meeting on May 23 will feature our very own Emma Butterworth and Gerard Benjamin 'in conversation' about their seven favourite houses in New Farm, dating from the 1890s to the 1930s. I'm sure the observations of an architect and historian will prove insightful and entertaining.

We are coming to the end of the first year of a three year, \$30,000 Historical Organisation Assistance Grant funded by the Brisbane City Council. The program builds the sustainability and capacity of community-based, not-for-profit organisations like ours to deliver history and heritage activities. In practical terms, for us this includes digitising our paper archives, making more information available online, and updating our membership and administrative processes. I acknowledge the hard work of our secretary Tracey in corralling the committee's efforts to ensure we remain on track to meeting our targets under this important Council-funded program.

Have you ever wanted to research your family tree but don't know where to start? Our June 27 meeting will focus on researching your family history. We'll be joined by experts from the State Library, Oral History Queensland and the Genealogical Society of Queensland, as well as professional storyteller Sam Regi, whose interview with society member James Delahunty featured in our **March newsletter**. We'll be following that up with some expert oral history training delivered by Oral History Queensland for those who want to really get serious about their research. Stay tuned for more information.

Until next month,

Robert Allen
President NF&DHS

Community News

Beverley presents the 'Jubilee Doily'

Someone's deft needlework on this doily marked the laying of the foundation stone, on 24 May 1935, of the new bridge to be named for King George V's Silver Jubilee.



By 1937, a new name was proposed, one to recognise J D Story (1869–1946), the key public servant who worked diligently to have the mammoth project approved ahead of its opening in 1940.

It's fanciful to imagine that the doily was completed at "Caldew", the grand house situated between the bridge and All Hallows'

School where Mrs Corrie hosted the annual display of the Brisbane Needlework Guild.

Our thanks go to Beverley Isdale of the Chermside & Districts Historical Society for making the trip over to

New Farm to present the doily. Beverley's husband Robert and his late brother Norm provided valuable information for the historical plaque which was unveiled at the Cannery Apartments in Teneriffe in 2015.

Robert and Norm's mother, Teresa Page, had lived nearby in Helen Street in the 1920s and worked at the Cannery. On the plaque, you'll see her pictured as a 20-year-old holding a pineapple which would just fill one can.



Membership Matters

Contributor: Bruna Burello-Day
Membership Secretary

Meeting attendance continues to amaze

A big thank you to all 90+ attendees of our April ANZAC Day Meeting. This was an exceptional turnout considering the uncertain weather and many of you having attended dawn and other early morning services. The ANZAC spirit was alive as demonstrated by the medals and sprigs of rosemary worn with pride. Of course, the special ANZAC-inspired treats, along with our usual tasty offerings, were much appreciated at afternoon tea. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying good company and conversation.

Membership still going strong

Two hundred and forty-five – that's the number of active financial members in the Society at time of writing. The majority of these are renewals which is testament to the commitment of so many of you in helping us achieve our goal of:

Gathering information from the past Preserving it for the future.

Thanks to everyone who responded to the reminders we sent via email and newsletters. The recent "final reminder" sent from our TidyHQ platform to remaining 2025 members elicited a good response. There is still time to renew before we need to "expire" your membership on 30 June. If you are a 2025 member, did you receive that reminder? Have you found an invoice from us in your spam folder?

Still not receiving all our emails?

If you are reading this on your preferred device, you don't need to worry about your emailed newsletters. However, it's possible that other emails, especially those sent from our TidyHQ membership platform, may not have reached everyone. To ensure you receive all emails from the Society, please check your spam or junk folders regularly. If you find an email from us, please mark it as "not spam" and/or move it to your inbox. All emails from us will have New Farm and Districts Historical Society or NFDHS as the sender's email address.

Better still, add the following addresses to your Contacts folders:

- hello@members.newfarmhistorical.org.au for TidyHQ generated emails including invoices, receipts, and renewal reminders.
- membership@newfarmhistorical.org.au for general emails from the Membership Secretary.
- sm@newfarmhistorical.org.au for newsletters and notifications sent via Mailchimp.

Yes, there are a lot of email addresses to monitor. The best way to make sure that you receive all emails from us is to add all the above addresses to your contacts. Eventually we hope to amalgamate everything into one sender address to help streamline our communications. In the meantime, thanks for your patience while we get this new platform running as efficiently as possible.

New members are always welcome

We have also gained several new members so far this year. Anyone wishing to apply for new membership is requested to email me at membership@newfarmhistorical.org.au and I will advise the best way to apply. We hope to have the online process for applying for new memberships operational soon.

All new and existing members are invited to our monthly members' afternoon tea which will be held on 14 May. Please see the invitation elsewhere in this newsletter. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to me at membership@newfarmhistorical.org.au.

Date Claimers

Public meetings are held at 2.30pm at the Merthyr Road Uniting Church Centre, 52 Merthyr Rd, New Farm, on the fourth Saturday each month from February to November.

Entry fee: \$5 for members; \$10 for non-members.

Other events include:

- 14 May:** Members' Afternoon Tea
- 15 May:** Caravan by New Farm Nash Theatre.
- 6 June:** Book [HERE](#).
- 16 May:** Oxlade Drive & Beyond Walking Tour – New Farm. Book [HERE](#).
- 20 May:** Politics in the Pub: control or care? The laws shaping young lives, hosted by New Farm Neighbourhood Centre. Book [HERE](#).
- 23 May:** Monthly Society Meeting

Useful Links

Brisbane Living Heritage:
www.brisbanelivingheritage.org

State Library of Queensland:
www.slq.qld.gov.au

Royal Historical Society of Queensland:
www.queenslandhistory.org

Queensland Women's Historical Association:
www.miegunyah.org

Membership Matters

Meet the member: David Purvis

Joining the Society a little under a year ago, David Purvis is a New Farm resident who arrived in the suburb with his late wife, Christine – a former member of the Society – some 25 years ago as “empty-nesters”. He is a retired Queensland solicitor with decades of experience in commercial law, property, estate planning and board and committee work.



David volunteers as a Board member of Brisbane-based charity, Sharing with Friends Foundation.

Older women over the age of 55 are one of the fastest-growing cohorts of people experiencing homelessness in Australia. Many single older women with modest savings or superannuation face what Sharing with Friends describes as a pivotal moment: in three to five years their meagre savings will be gone, leaving them with no access to secure housing or languishing on social housing waitlists – unless we can provide them with more affordable housing choices.

Established in 2021, Sharing with Friends Foundation offers an innovative small-scale co-housing model as the alternative path. Five women use their savings to create a supportive co-housing community where they can live happily, independently and affordably on the aged pension. The Foundation owns the land; residents make a housing contribution and receive lifetime tenure in their own studio unit, with access to shared communal spaces. The Foundation's first project is underway in Darra.

To learn more or to support this vital work, visit sharingwithfriends.org.



David is a regular at our monthly meetings and members' afternoon teas. Why not have a chat with him when next you see him!

Contributor: Bruna Burello-Day, Membership Secretary

Talk recorder team expands

Connie Hamer and Emma Butterworth have joined Austin Adams in the happy band of talk recorders and editors who work each month on recording the talk, editing it and then uploading it to Vimeo for the benefit of posterity and particularly of those unable to be at the live talk.



Community News

Building a better history society, now and for the future

Every volunteer-run organisation comes up across challenges in ensuring it is providing the services its members want, whilst also meeting its legal and financial obligations, harnessing existing and emerging technologies and planning its future activities.

Our society is no different. Last year we were successful in gaining a three-year, \$30,000 Historical Organisation Assistance Grant provided by the Brisbane City Council.

The Council program helps build the sustainability and capacity of community-based, not-for-profit organisations like ours to better deliver history and heritage activities into the future.

Our overall title for this successful grant application was ‘Unlocking the history of the New Farm and Districts Area’ and it covers a number of aspects.

Our priorities under the program include:

- Digitising our paper – based archives and making them more accessible online via eHive;
- Improving our online membership, financial and other administrative processes;
- Providing oral history training to our members to help them conduct their own research and expand our existing oral history archives; and
- Reviewing and updating our constitution and copyright processes.

All these measures are designed to make our society both better able to undertake our current activities and meet future challenges and opportunities.

As we approach one year of program funding, we have already instituted several important improvements to the way we run our society, including introducing the Australian-owned TidyHQ software program to better manage our membership, financial, administrative and governance processes.

Our priorities for the next financial year include continuing the digitisation project already underway and providing expert training on how to conduct oral histories, a process which should result in us being able to...

Cont. over page

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Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Community News

...expand our important oral history collection.

We acknowledge the support of the Brisbane City Council in helping us put these important measures and improvements into place.



The digitisation project team hard at work

Contributor: Tracey Hurren, Secretary

Heart of New Farm Walk — April

It was standing room only outside New Farm Library on Saturday 18 April for the start of an historical walk around ‘the heart’ of New Farm. Some walkers came from just streets away, others from suburbs way.

The highlight of the walk? It varied from walker to walker. The grandness of the Holy Spirit Church impressed many. The rear view of Wynberg was new to most.

Walkers Michele and Greg Endicott said: "There was something for everyone, but for us, two places that stood out were ‘Wynberg’ and ‘Hamel’". We also enjoyed Savour."

They described one of the many interesting backstories to the buildings. "We came to a building labelled ‘Hamel’, where Gerard shared the story of its naming - after the victorious WW1 battle of Hamel in the Somme, where the building’s original owner had fought, under the famous General Monash."

One walker was particularly interested in Moreton Street. His great-grandfather, a retired sea captain, died there in 1918. Then in the 1960s, the great grandson met a young woman who flatted there, and they married at the Holy Spirit Church. It turns out that it was all connected. The two-storied 1890s mansion on the corner of Moreton Street and Bowen Terrace became a private hospital, then later ‘Marlborough Mansions/ Flats’ where the couple met.



Sincere thanks to Bruna and Connie for their gracious ‘Tail End Charlie’ duties with this large group. Gerard’s next walk is ‘Oxlade Drive & Beyond’ on Saturday, 16 May. More details are **HERE**.

Michele and Greg Endicott



New Farm walk photos: Connie Hamer