

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2018. All appears to be going well with History Redcliffe and at our first committee meeting for the new year which was held on 27 February we had a full agenda to discuss.

The website is a continual work in progress and with the help of Fiona Murgatroyd and Pat Gee everything seems to be progressing well.

Our financial situation is still healthy with over ten thousand dollars in the banks. This was helped just recently by a thousand dollar donation by Marle Juster to History Redcliffe. Marle was a Patron of our Society and always worked hard to try to ensure the smooth running of History Redcliffe over many decades. Smooth running is difficult to achieve over many years and Marle attended many a meeting to discuss the issues we had to try to keep us moving in a positive direction. I think it could be said that he achieved this so now it is our turn to keep matters running smoothly and keep the flag flying.

The committee discussed a couple of options as to what to do with Marle's donation but nothing definite was decided. Marle I am sure would like us to use some of the money to assist with Society's matters and not spend it all on a tribute to him. If anybody has some ideas on suggestions on how to spend Marle's donation please speak to me or a committee member. A booklet on Margate featuring his cake shop was one suggestion

We now have the third medallion available for sale which is the Redcliffe Jetty. To date sales have been going well but we still have many medallions still available for sale. Do not forget that the medallion makes an ideal birthday gift if you are wondering what to buy for that special person.

At the last committee meeting the matter of what to do for our major fund raiser for the year was discussed as it had previously been decided that the Cent Auction was no longer a viable option. Most members thought that a Trivia Night might fit our fund raising purposes quite well. Janet Franklin had obtained a lot of information about it from a friend who had organised Trivia Nights before and the feedback was very positive. The committee decided to proceed with organising a Trivia night in the not too distant future.

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History Redcliffe aims to

- Research -*
- Collect -*
- Evaluate -*
- Preserve -*
- Inform -*
- Promote -*
- Honour -*

PRESIDENT'S PIECE CONTINUED

We also asked our members who attended the last General meeting to answer a questionnaire about History Redcliffe. The response to this questionnaire has not been processed yet as Fiona has been very sick as she has a mini heart attack. She is feeling better now so we should have the results soon.

We changed our meeting format last month and had a small break for afternoon tea after completion of the guest speaker. This appeared to work well as there was much discussions amongst members during the break. It is early days with this format and a definite decision on how the meetings will be run will be finalised in the next few months.

Later in this Newsletter is a Vale to Neville John Pask who was born on 3rd September 1930. Nev had a large influence on my life as I worked for him on many projects in Redcliffe and the south-east corner of Queensland. He initially operated his real estate business from a small office on the north-east corner of Anzac Ave and John St. where the Redcliffe Hotel now stands. He lived for many years in Margate Parade a little bit south of MacDonnell Road before moving to the Gold Coast in the early nineties. Architect Robert Ward designed Nev's office that he had built at 25 Anzac Ave and operated from for many years which is now occupied by solicitors Stewart Burr and Mayer. The other building Nev built in Redcliffe was designed by Noel Robinson Architect and consisted of thirty one units at 77 Marine Parade known as Seabrae. Nev took a long time to sell these units but had more success with the high rise units he had built at Coorparoo. Nev also developed land in Melbourne where his son Dean managed the office and he was very successful.

Nev donated to many causes especially the Redcliffe PCYC. Our Museum also benefited from his generosity. When we were raising funds for the Museum Nev said that whatever money we managed to raise he would double it.

Well done Nev Pask. You have led a wonderful life.



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MUSE NEWS

Hi Everyone

We are moving ever closer to an opening date for the new museum!

As you may have noticed, the extension is complete and the museum is looking lovely again - from the outside.

The builder's 'make-do' on the garden was to lay turf - which is coming along well thanks to all this fabulous rain we have been having. But I have some ideas about a new garden that I am working on at the moment. When I have a better picture of that I will let you know.

Inside we are now working on the interior redevelopment of the new social history displays. We have been able to reclaim all of the old section back from the temporary exhibitions and are going for a whole new look. It is very exciting and I can't wait to share it with everyone!

The streets we live in

The inaugural temporary exhibition in our new Feature Gallery will be *The Streets we live in*. Carly has been working with several of the historical societies in the region to develop a background to key streets across the Moreton Bay Council area. The stories are fascinating and it will be a really engaging exhibition. Pat Gee has been booked for a talk in late June - date to be confirmed. So you won't want to miss that one!

National Trust Heritage Festival (18 April - 20 May)

We are heading into the National Trust Heritage Festival period and there are lots of talks at Bribie Island Seaside Museum and Pine Rivers Heritage Museum - so check out their website, or the individual websites for information.

Bribie Island Seaside Museum

The current exhibition is *Hidden in plain view*, which explores our regions hidden environmental secrets. This covers national parks, conservation parks, and general areas of eco interest, including some of our rarer creatures. Well worth a look if you are wondering where all the special spots are!

Pine Rivers Heritage Museum

At PRHM we are commemorating the *Final 100 Days* of WW1. Once again we have teamed up with Jeff Hopkins-Weiss to produce an amazing exhibition drawing on local collections, around this theme.

There is also a full set of talks - as usual - check the website for details!

By the next newsletter I should be able to invite you to the opening of the Redcliffe Museum Stay tuned!!

Joan

Network Coordinator - Museums

DUFFIELD RD LAND SIXPENCE AN ACRE

In compiling a history of the Peninsula, it is apparent that the original settlers saw things from various points of view. The version printed below, is memories of **William Charles Deans** and is taken from a Sequi-Centenary Supplement to the Redcliffe Herald, 11 September 1974.

Mr Deans picks up the story of the Peninsula in 1877 when there were few houses and residents and Aborigines used to roam and wildlife was plentiful.

The first provisional school was opened on Deans Road, now called Duffield Road. This building was a small slab edifice. The schoolmaster was a Mr Arkins. Later this building was occupied by a Mr Haskins.

At this time another school was erected by the residents of more pretentious dimensions than the previous building on the Brisbane Road near the cemetery. The site was later occupied by a clump of bamboos. Many ornamental trees were planted around the school on a special day known as Arbor Day.

The school was conducted by a Mr Downley. Children came from Woody Point and a little place called Redcliffe, where the first hotel was erected by Mr O'Leary. This hotel is now the Ambassadors. The O'Leary children, Joe, Maggie and Bessie attended the school.

When a police station was erected at Redcliffe, the children of the policeman, Sergeant Wade, used to travel two miles to this school. The attendance grew until 40 pupils crowded the building. Teachers were supplied from Brisbane. Following Mr Pearce was an Irishman direct from Ireland named Mr Spillane, then a Miss Connolly and lastly Miss Stephenson. At this time another provisional school was erected at Redcliffe, the teacher was Mr Ashmole.

FIRST STORE...a grocery store was opened at Woody Point by a Mr Nightingale, this was the only store in the district. It stood where a Cash and Carry now does business.

In those early days the population settled back in the interior of the Peninsula, then gradually came forward to the coast. The best stretch of beach was at Scotts Point where the tide never exposed the sea bed. This was known then as Bonny Beach.

Prior to 1877, Mr Cameron and Mr Copson took up about 1000 acres of land on each side of Duffield Road at sixpence an acre. **Mr John Deans (William's father) bought a block of 20 acres at £2 an acre** (known as Mt Pleasant). A two-story house was erected on it and an orchard was planted there with many varieties of fruit which grew to perfection. Mango trees also flourished.

Timber for this building was all cut in the locality by pit saw and hauled in by bullock team owned by Mr Tribbs sic (Tubbs). The furniture was brought from Brisbane in a small steamer called the *Kangaroo*. It proceeded up Hays Inlet for several miles to what was called the rafting grounds and from there it was moved by bullock team.

In those early days the district used to possess a sugar mill and an arrowroot mill. The mill at Clontarf used to produce first class cane. The site of the sugar mill stood near the site of our first golf course. The arrowroot mill was situated near Clontarf. It would be an honour to the pioneers of this Peninsula if our Town Council would name the streets of the district after them.

I will give here some of the names such as: Deans, Cameron, Copson, Adams, Salisbury, Pikett, Snook, Silcock, Barron, Mitchell, Haskins, Long, Bell, Tribbs sic (Tubbs), Cutts, etc.

The mails and passenger communication was done by road 30 miles from Brisbane through the Pine River district, by coach. Mr Mitchell was the postmaster and mailman who used to walk from what is known as **Barron's Corner, three miles to Woody Point.**

Close to the cemetery a Congregational Church, the first place of worship in the district, was erected by Mr Tribbs sic (Tubbs) and afterwards removed to Main Coast Road, Redcliffe, then again to its present position. About this time a Baptist Church was built by Mrs Cameron (by donations) at the corner of Duffield Road.

A historic spot that should never have been destroyed was an Aboriginal Kipper Ring or Bora. This was situated about 200 yards across the road opposite the first golf course on the Brisbane Road.

GREAT FLOODS....about the year 1893 there were torrential rains which caused a great flood in the Brisbane River, carrying away the Victoria Bridge and hundreds of houses which piled our beaches feet high with timber, pianos, bags of flour, animals and human beings. Several houses were erected from the timber recovered.

The village of Woody Point started to prosper as prior to this a jetty was built and a pretty little steamer was built by Suttons at Kangaroo Point. It was named the *Redcliffe*. The cabins were upholstered and very comfortable. This steamer was intended to ply back and forth from Sandgate to Woody Point, but she was built top heavy and therefore dangerous in the rough seas at Sandgate Pier. The writer of this narrative was a passenger and can vouch for her rolling abilities in a rough sea.

Another steamer was sent to replace her, named *SS Pearl of the '93 flood disaster*. She took passengers right through to Brisbane. She was employed to ferry people across the river after the Victoria Bridge collapsed. On the south side she fouled a hawser holding another steamer and the torrent rolled her over into the river while laden with passengers.

SEVERAL VESSELS

The *SS Pearl* was replaced on the Humpybong Services by *SS Garnet*, then a new steamer was built to replace the *Garnet* called *SS Emerald*. She did service for many years. This was the last steamer of the Humpybong Steamship Company.

Another company known as the Brisbane Tug Company, placed another steamer, *SS Natone* in opposition, which caused the death of the HSS Co. Eventually, the Brisbane Tug Co. ordered a first class passenger steam to be built in Scotland (*SS Koopa*). She came out to Australia under her own steam.

About the years 1906-9, Woody Point was the hub of the Peninsula. On November 9, the **Prince of Wales' birthday, a large regatta was held off Woody Point Jetty. It was a common sight to see four or five steamers at anchor off the jetty.**

At this time all passenger trade was done at Woody Point. Redcliffe Jetty was then considered too dangerous to go alongside if the sea was rough.

BIG CYCLONE.....I will now take the reader back to some years after the 1893 flood when a cyclone devastated part of this Peninsula. It came across the bay and struck the coast at Scotts Point and cleared a track 300 yards wide in a straight line to Clontarf. Only large limbs were left on the trees.

A large house with eight people at breakfast was completely blown away. Galvanised iron from the roof was wrapped around tree limbs half a mile away. A heavy buggy was thrown partly up a tree. Strange to say, no one was hurt seriously.

Some distance further along, another house facing south was lifted from its blocks, turned round and left facing west. The inmates of this house had breakfast laid on the table. About an hour after the cyclone passed I visited the house. To my astonishment I found everything intact, even the sugar and milk in milk jugs not even spilled. People were so scared they immediately left and went to board at Woody Point Hotel.

'HAUNTED' HOUSE....There was a four-storey house between Woody Point and Clontarf, which many people called a mystery house or haunted house. Perhaps it may not be out of place to give the origin of this house and the owner whose name was Jacob Pearen, a lucky Gympie gold digger, who came to settle here and built the house.

It was in the heyday of Woody Point that this was erected. Jacob had the natives top the trees that obscured his view of the bay and steamers. This view was obtained from a small lookout house on top of the building. He planted a fine garden here with many choice fruits. A telescope was installed in the lookout tower.

Mr Pearen was a heavy drinker which was reflected in his face. This drinking brought on Bright's Disease which landed him in hospital. The doctors sent him home as incurable. A woman friend strongly advised him to take Clements Tonic and at last he decided to try it, so he sent to his daughter in Brisbane and after the first bottle he asked for his pipe. He took as many as 25 bottles which presumably restored him to health and he lived for many more years.

CONVICTS...it may be of interest to know how this district was named Humpy Bong. When convicts were brought into Moreton Bay they were landed at Redcliffe and a settlement was formed just behind what is now the Ambassadors Hotel.

Some years ago chains and other prison equipment were dug from the ground there. When this location was found to be unsuitable the convicts were removed elsewhere. At this time the native blacks were numerous. When the natives returned and saw the buildings had disappeared they said "humpy bong" meaning humpies were gone.

Some years later a family by the name of Jenkins came to reside at Wards Point now called Clontarf. **Mr Jenkins opened the first blacksmith's shop on the Peninsula and this was later removed to Redcliffe.**

(It is thought these reminiscences were written in the 1940s.)



RESEARCH SUMMARY

The following enquiries came through in recent times.....answers were given from records held in The Den...

- History of Woody Point Campus of Southern Cross Catholic College
- Photos and History of Suttons Beach Bathing Pavilion over the years
- A relative requested information on John Henry Cox who was involved in the **building of the Woody Point Memorial Hall"Heritage Listing" information posted to Lyn Cox...29/8/17.**
- Suttons Beach Park information
- The Kelso family
- Cape Moreton Lighthouse keeper surname of GREGORY. Recently had an email from author/historian Peter Ludlow who was unable to help but is keen to give a talk to History Redcliffe.
- A representative from a Church Group seeking contact names of indigenous residents on the Peninsula
- No success with information on long distance swimmer Joanie Bailey?
- History of a house in Margate was referred to the Local History Room at the Library for study of aerial maps
- **Work yet to commence....on the history of Margate Village for local traders**
- A lass in Wagga Wagga NSW was sent a brief family history of the known Suttons in Redcliffe 1865-1955
- **Photos of Thomas Rothwell's gardens (at Taringa) were requested for a gardening publication**
- Eight albums of photos of various festivals such as those sponsored by Redcliffe City Heart Association Inc., Redcliffe Peninsula Promotions Bureau and the 1988 *Salute Australia* Bicentennial Pageant were given to History Redcliffe on 28 February 2018.
- The assistance of Lyn Gray in the Local History Room is acknowledged. Lyn has reached the 10 year mark of membership of the Society.

THANK YOU

A week prior to the completion of this Newsletter I was struggling to supply articles of interest for the Newsletter. After speaking with Margaret Harding she supplied me with a USB stick that has now very competently filled our Newsletter. A big thank you to Margaret is certainly in order.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BILL DEVONSHIRE

Episode six: Part 2 – final writings of Bill Devonshire....he passed away aged 70 years in January 1977.

Owing to space constraints, the end of Bill's story could not be printed in the last issue. You may recall Bill writing fondly of Aunt Emily as follows.....

Another day I was at the front gate talking to a neighbor when Aunt arrived home from town and while she was walking up the street a large dog ran down the fence barking and snarling at her. I had heard the barking and when she came up to us she explained that she hates big dogs with big teeth – “those salvation dogs.”

* * *

“Another day she was down to help the Red Cross prepare afternoon tea for some troops in town just for the afternoon but she returned home about 3pm. I said “Didn't the boys come Aunt?” She said, “Yes, William, but it was terrible for the boys; when they arrived, they discovered two of them had the measles and they had all to go back to the ‘consolation’ depot.”

When I went to live at Yuleba I had reason to remember the prickly-pear on more than one occasion. I was about eight years of age and at school, football was in season. The school grounds were surrounded by a high paling fence on three sides to keep back the encroaching pest and someone kicked the football over the fence. The fence had long panels of palings about fifteen feet between posts and the palings sagged with the weight of the timber. I intended to retrieve the ball and managed to get on top of the panel of palings leaning outward. Then a big boy caught the top of the palings and vaulted up and over. In doing so, he sent the panel inwards and I fell outward and fair and square into a large bunch of pear. I had to get out and had millions of prickles in my clothes and many in my body. I remember making my way home half a mile very slowly and painfully. My mother spent the whole day with tweezers removing the small hair-like prickles from my face, neck, arms and back. Then when Father came home he completed the task by giving me a clean shave with the razor. I did not return to school for a fortnight as I came out in a mass of fester pimples where each prickle was embedded. The emu played an enormous part in the spread of the prickly pear as they enjoyed the nice red fruit from the pear. (I did too and ate a lot while there.) The emu would travel many miles and the excreta from these birds left a trail of highly germinated seeds and the pear was spread “en masse.”

The Cactoblastis grub did a magnificent and unbelievable job, only the people associated with the pear where it drew 10-12 feet high in the brigalow scrub can appreciate just what they achieved-the seemingly impossible. In places it was an impenetrable wall and the grub disposed of the lot. In the early stages of introduction plots were established, and after the grub reached a certain stage it turned into a cocoon, then a few weeks later a moth emerged, the moth then took off and eventually laid a string-like stick of eggs about 4 centimeters long. This adhered to the fine cluster of prickles and the bottom egg hatched first, a tiny green caterpillar and it crawled along the remaining eggs and found a suitable spot on a leaf and bored into the pear. Others followed and they ate out the interior of each leaf and passed on to the next leaf, always remaining inside and under cover and going right down to the base of the plant causing the once prolific leaves of the pear to dry and shrivel up.

Should the bunch of pear be too small for the number of grubs before they reach the cocoon stage they would go over the ground until they found another healthy bunch. They would then enter into it and repeat the operation. Eventually their work almost completed, the once ten foot high pear was now drying up mass of two foot high shell. Snakes and adders lost their shelter and hawks and other birds took their toll on the reptiles.

Many of the cocoons were gathered by persons employed by the Prickly Pear Destruction Board and these were placed in boxes then in a railway wagon with sliding doors and when the cocoons were ready to hatch and bring out the moth, the railway wagons were sent westward with the door slightly opened and as the train moved through the vast track of pear the moths kept flying out of the van and were distributed for miles along the railway line. Effective and ingeniously simple wasn't it?

Cactoblastis grub wiped out many death adders. The grubs having completed the job, were now almost homeless and crawled everywhere looking for more pear. Many grubs were devoured by birds and it was discovered by the Railway Fettleers that the grub killed many death adders. Normally, they would find many death adders under the sleepers when lifting the lines to replace metal or sunken rails. Now they found the same average number but all adders were dead so they sent some down from Chinchilla to see if an explanation would be forthcoming from a laboratory test. Replies from tests showed the adder ate the **grub and as it entered the adders' throats and stomachs its pincer-like nippers perforated the adders' interior and caused it to die.** Two good jobs completed by the cactoblastis. The Hall of Memory to the cactoblastis stands at Boonarga on the main Western Line. There today cattle graze on the once impenetrable jungle of prickly pear; and hundreds of acres of the brigalow country are cleared and now under cultivation. A grand transformation.

By travelling the way I have for a good many years I have visited many parts of Australia and lost and found **many valuable pieces I would cherish again. I have retained a nice collection of sea shells, jaws of a 13' tiger shark, red deer antlers, a crocodile skin, large boar tusks, a sailing ship in a bottle, aboriginal pieces and a painting in oil of Bishop Island Signal Station showing the Devonshire home and a ship at anchor out in the Bay.** A table fork picked up in the burnt out ruins of the first hotel in the Winton area on the Boullia track, towards the Diamantina River is a prized possession. There is a sample from Ayers Rock, from the centre of Australia, and miniature ingots of lead from the mines at Mt Isa, each of which is a short story in itself. My dingo and kangaroo hides bring back memories of the past.

I still recall going to school and my old school mates, many of whom have passed on. I remember one particular day we were gardening (each boy had his own plot) and I was planting beetroot. Ian Pratt came up **clicking his fingers for the Master to hear him. Ian stuttered badly and the Master said, "Yes, Ian?" Ian's face went through a lot of contortions and he said "p-p-p-please S-s-s-sir, T-t-t-tommy Magee m-m-m-m-messed himself."** I laughed. The Master looked hard and told Willie Devonshire to take Tommy Magee home. A lesson I learnt: **Never laugh at other's misfortune.**

When I was a lad, I ate anything in the bush, except iguanas and snakes. Turkeys, rabbit, fish, emus, wallabies, kangaroos, bandicoots, pigeons and ducks were all good tucker in those days. I still take a share of ducks and fish and enjoy the outings. I loved clay target shooting too and have won a number of trophies. Out of 140 competitors from interstate and overseas I was placed tenth. Now I am getting too old and too ill and I am forced to watch rather than compete.

When I was twelve years of age I had a pair of young pigeons given to me by Mr Charlie Smithson. He was training race horses at Finnie, a railway station named after the late Mr John Finnie. Mr Smithson bred **and raced a number of good winners of the "Gold Tie" stock. Well I brought the two young pigeons home and kept them in a box on the verandah of the old home at Drayton. The inevitable happened and I soon had two eggs added. Now I needed a bigger box. I kept on building them from boxes I brought home from the local store, or tin, or anything I could find. Altogether I raised over 40 birds as a lad but when I was away working the native cats killed and presumably ate them.**

Still, I loved pigeon breeding and racing. After I was married and living at Redcliffe I was able to get some more birds. This time the loft was much more respectable - a three-section bft. I joined the Queensland Pigeon Racing Association in Brisbane. It is a very time-consuming hobby. First comes the training then basketing and travelling to various places for the races - Jondaryan, Quilpie, Eromanga, Longreach, distances of 100 to 600 miles away.

I have won a third place from Jondaryan and a first from Miles, the inaugural race from Miles to Redcliffe (300 miles). One bird racing from Eromanga took exactly 12 hours on the dot to return home. The Queensland Homing Society Club rooms were closer to home so I joined that. However jealousies among groups often lead to foul play and I was certain something was more than a little underhand. Soon I **decided not to race again. Dishonesty disgusts me. "Win fair and square or be glad for the one who did"** is my way.

My wife was not well and I was away from home such a lot so I asked the secretary to come and collect my birds. Some of them were very expensive to buy and in many ways I was sorry to see them go, but the pleasure had gone out of the game. Pigeon racing has been only one of my activities. I have had a very full and wonderful life. I have discovered and invented things and made suggestions to Government bodies which are now part of the law of the land. All over the country I have spoken to various groups about my many interests. The name of Cyclone Bill is known in Florida where I have been able to warn of impending hurricanes. Every day of my life has been filled with events, helping people and being helped and with a good deal of luck. Our first house was bought from the winnings of the “Find the Ball” competition which used to be run by the Courier Mail.

Whenever we needed anything somehow the means to achieve our need was created. God has been very good to me but perhaps His greatest blessing is that I have loved and have been loved. That is the true richness in life.

That is the story of Cyclone Bill to date. The rest of my life I intend to be fairly uneventful. I am hoping for a short spell of pleasure in my declining days. I am not well now as I write this but if I know myself at all well I shall continue to be busy though my pen will be still. So my good friends, I bid you farewell.”



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HISTORY REDCLIFFE

VALE NEV PASK..

EXPERTS FROM REDCLIFFE MUSEUM RECORDS AND COURIER MAIL 2 MARCH 2018

Mr Pask grew up on a dairy farm and small crops farm between Cooroy and Gympie. He passed away on Sunday 25 February aged 87 years. After leaving the family farm aged 15 with £20 in his pocket, Mr Pask was hired as an apprentice printer in Sydney. He then purchased a bankrupt dry-cleaning business that he quickly expanded into a chain of shops.

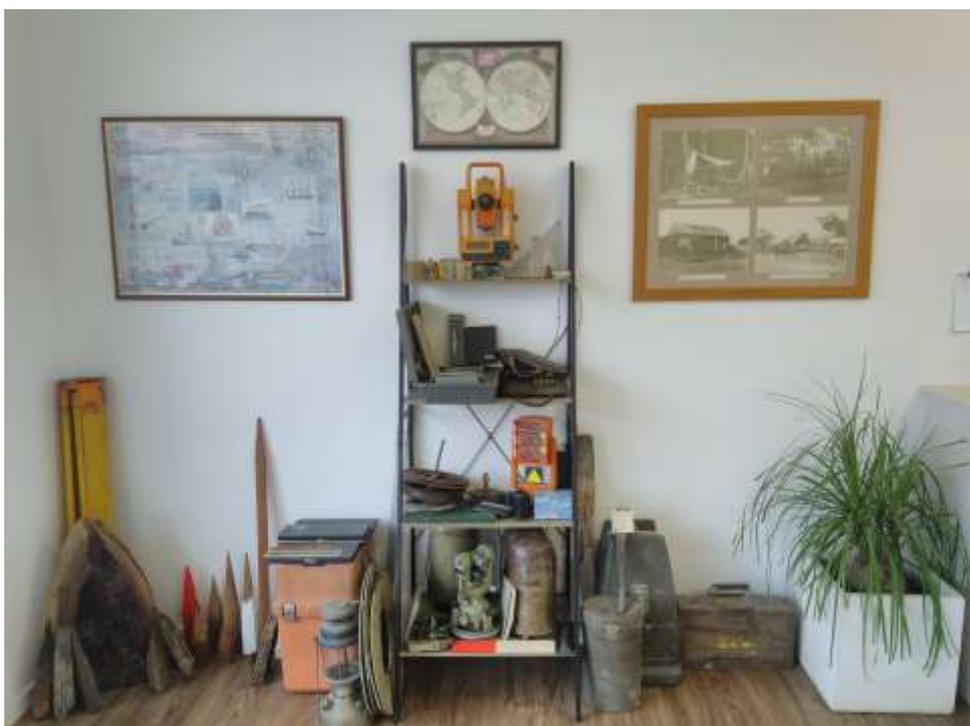
His career as a property developer began when he started buying, renovating and selling old homes. His first major projects were at Redcliffe in 1965 where he bought Evans Real Estate agency. He went on to develop more than 2000 housing blocks, apartments, car yards and other commercial sites on the Peninsula.

Mr Pask was a major instigator and donor in the building of the Police Citizens Youth Centre and a significant donor to the Redcliffe Museum.

It was a pleasure to see him in the Museum in recent years and to thank him for his contribution to the community.

WD SURVEYS HAS MOVED!

After about 15 years in the same office WD Surveys have moved to 15 Anzac Avenue, Redcliffe which is only about 100m from the old office. It is a single story building and is about 100m² larger in area than the previous office. The larger area has enabled us to establish a little museum at the reception area. There is a photo of the museum below.



AMPLE FRESH WATER FOUND NEAR BEACH

REF REDCLIFFE HERALD 17 JUNE 1965

How to "keep up appearances" has been the problem of Mr CH Simon on his *Blue Water* holiday property in Margate Parade, Margate, ever since the present hosing ban came into being.

The "appearances" consist of several large areas of lawn, hundreds of £s worth of staghorn, many flower beds and rows of crotons and other shrubs which, added together, constitute the very attractive grounds surrounding the Simon residence and the twelve modern chalets which are available on rental to holidaymakers.

Registered with the Queensland Government Tourist Bureau, and a showplace visited by many interstate holidaymakers, *Blue Waters* is an oasis built on sand.

Mr Simon could not face the possibility of the grounds becoming a wasteland again and decided to do something about it.

First step was to employ a Brisbane water diviner, who confirmed Mr Simon's opinion that there was a freshwater underground stream in the vicinity. Second step was to start digging and boring, not in the middle of one of the prized lawns, as the diviner suggested, but at another point at the rear of the Simon residence. This came to a stop when a strata of clay was found which prevented the successful operation of a spear pump. A next door neighbour was more fortunate and found fresh water in his front garden, a mere 20 yards away from the beach.

Taking his cue from this, Mr Simon removed a croton from the bordered driveway and with a spear pump found fresh, clear, drinkable water eleven feet down. Calculating the volume of supply was the next problem and the only way to do this was to pump the water.

With the aid of a series of connections of galvanized and plastic pipes and a $\frac{3}{4}$ hp electric driven pump, water has now been flowing steadily for two weeks, nine hours per day.

The pump lifts the water 100 feet from the spear and sends it on its way through three hoses, a further 320 feet, to where it is needed. Pressure at the hose outlets is almost the same as a mains water supply. The venture cost Mr Simon £150, which he considers to be money well spent. As a footnote, it can be said that the existence of fresh water in the vicinity has been known for many years. Years ago there was a public watering point farther along the beach at Scotts Point.

PHOTOS

Below : Rita-Marie Lenton presenting “A Family Undertaking” about the Alex Gow family to President of History Redcliffe on 9th February 2018.



Below : Photo of the works being completed at the Redcliffe Museum



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NEW MEMBERS

It's always a pleasure to welcome new members to our Society.

Invite a Guest

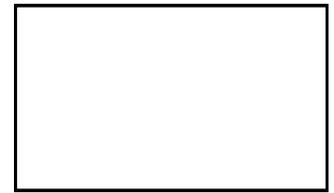
MEETINGS

The Society meets on the second Friday of each month at 2.00 pm either at the Redcliffe Library or at the Terry Walker room of the Cultural Centre, Irene Street, Redcliffe. We feature a guest speaker to cover a wide variety of topics and this is followed by the handling of general business. Afternoon tea is then served. This is a pleasant environment and Members are encouraged to invite friends as a guest. Visitors are made very welcome.

The Annual General Meeting is held in the month of August each year.

For details and the venue of our next meeting, please see "For your Diary" on the back page of this newsletter OR visit "Calendar of Events" on our website www.redcliffehistoricalsociety.com

If undeliverable return to
 History Redcliffe
 PO Box 370
 REDCLIFFE QLD 4020



2018

For your Diary

MONTH	DATE/EVENT	GUEST SPEAKER	LOCATION
March	Friday 9th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Meeting 	Ted Flack Army Service	Redcliffe Library meeting rooms
April	Friday 13th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Meeting 	James Lergessner	Cultural Centre meeting room
May	Friday 11th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Meeting 	James Houghton	Cultural Centre meeting room
	Wednesday 16th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> History Seminar MBRC 	Pat Gee, Cheryl Sailsbury History Redcliffe information Stall Programme TBA	North Lakes Hub
June	Friday 8th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Meeting 	Greg Cope- National Archives Australia Redcliffe Postal Services	Redcliffe Library meeting rooms
July	Friday 13th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Meeting 	To be advised	Cultural Centre meeting room
August	Friday 10th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual General Meeting 	To be advised	Redcliffe Library meeting rooms