

Historical Society of the Northern Territory

Patron: The Hon Austin Asche AC

NEWSLETTER JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024

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Email: hsnt@inet.net.au Newsletter Editor: Bev Phelts

HSNT Committee – President: Matthew James; Vice President: Bev Phelts;
Secretary: Libby Siebert : Treasurer: Lyn Reid; others - Brian Reid, Derek Pugh, Clayton Frederickson, Ian Anderson & Wendy Asche.

FUTURE EVENTS

Thursday 8 February – Museum and Art Gallery – Talk – Underwater Archaeology in the Top End – 5.30pm-6.30pm

Free entry

Dive deep with the Territory's own maritime archaeologist Dr David Steinberg as he details scientific diving projects on the WWII Japanese submarine I-124 and the Japanese pearling mothership Sanyo Maru. Join David as he explores the history and archaeology of two of our most significant NT wrecks, and the hurdles of operating in our murky fast-moving waters.

Saturday 17 February – Museum and Art Gallery – Talk - The Prelude to War: Events leading up to the bombing of Darwin – 11am start

Free Entry

In the years and months prior to the bombing of Darwin on 19 February 1942, decisions were made by both Allied and Japanese leaders which would change thousands of lives forever. Though seemingly disparate and unconnected, they would culminate in a set of circumstances at and around Darwin which would result in a resounding victory for the Japanese, and great loss for the Allies. Join MAGNT Curator of Territory History, Jared Archibald, as he explores the myriad of stories that surround the first attack by an enemy power on Australian soil.

Tuesday 12 March – Museum and Art Gallery – Territory History Collection tour - 11am-noon

Cost \$14.28

Join MAGNT Assistant Curator of Territory History, Paige Taylor, for a behind the scenes tour of the Territory History Collection. See firsthand the shelving units that tower overhead housing the thousands of historical relics and objects that MAGNT cares for. Learn how these objects tell the stories of the history of the Northern Territory from the 1800s until today.

Bookings essential – www.magnt.net.au/whatson

The Society's AGM

Our AGM will be held at the end of March. Details will be in the next newsletter

Membership for 2024 (January to December 2024) is now due

The fees are –

Concession membership student/pensioner: \$40.00

Individual membership: \$70.00

Family membership: two adults at one address: \$90.00

Institutional membership \$90.00

You can now pay on line via credit card on our new website

www.historicalsocietynt.org.au/membership

Alternatively, you can pay via cheque, money order or bank transfer

Bank transfer details: Historical Society of the NT BSB:015 896 (ANZ) Account No: 228391976

Remember to include your “SURNAME & MEMBERSHIP” against your deposit and email your details to hsnt@iinet.net.au if your personal details have changed.

Mystery Deposit

The Historical Society has received a bank transfer deposit of \$70 on 5 January from Danica Kalinic. This person is not a current member and we have not received a membership application from her. If anyone knows her, please let us know. Email: hsnt@iinet.net.au or ring Bev on 0417868827

HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST EVENTS

History Talks: Annual History Colloquium was again well attended. The talks ranged from early dancing classes, the beginning of Tang Soo Tao to protecting our koalas.



Peter Siebert & Ruth Kerr



Matthew Stephen & Libby Siebert



John Lamb & Alby Foreman
Both men worked together in Papua New Guinea in the 1960s and had not seen each other since but met up at the Colloquium.



Robert Wesley-Smith & Allan Mitchell



Steve Farram, Samantha Wells, Matthew Stephen & Bev Phelts



Ann Groves & Jared Archibald

Renaming the Darwin Plaza Building, Smith Street Mall

On 3 November, Randazzo Developments unveiled a mural tribute to Felix Ernest Holmes who was the first person to provide a public electricity supply to Darwin residents in 1912. In honour of Holmes' achievement, the Randazzo family renamed the Darwin Plaza Building to PowerHouse as it was the site where Holmes generated his electricity supply.



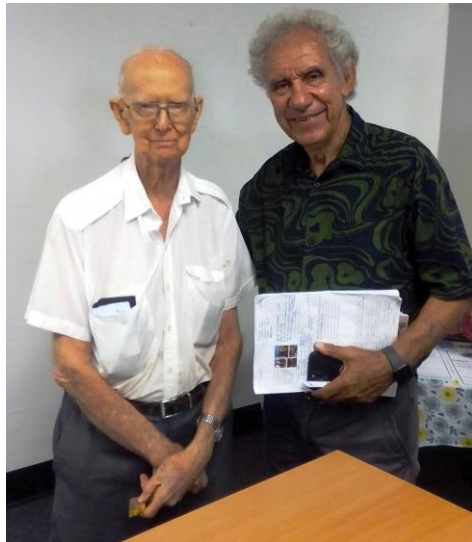
The large Holmes mural that graces the wall inside PowerHouse



Bev Phelts, Jared Archibald, Libby Siebert, Paige Taylor & Peter Siebert

5th Oration – Speaker Charlie King AM

About 30 people attended the talk by Charlie who enthralled us about his family's life and his work on the 'No More' initiative.



Alby Foreman & Charlie King



Wendy Asche, Lyn Reid & Jan Moore



Jill Finch & Jan Riley



Kevin Coonan & Matt James



Lyn Lowe & Heather Boulden



Elaine Hellyer & Marnie Cameron



Lyn Reid & Peter Siebert



Allan Mitchell & Jeremy Hemphill



Wendy Asche, Penny Baird, Matt James, Ian Anderson & Derek Pugh



Vida Goodvach & Janie Mason



Lyn Lowe, Jan Moore & Brian Reid

The Society's Christmas Lunch

Photographs courtesy Clayton Fredericksen, Lyn & Brian Reid



Julie Mastin, Penny Baird, Lyn Lowe, Merry Cooper, Heather Boulden, Mark Ames & Jan Hills

104th Anniversary of the Great Race – 10 December 2023

The event was organised by the Darwin Aviation Museum. Officials in attendance were the NT Administrator, the Honourable Professor Hugh Heggie, Ruth Jones, past NT Administrator John Hardy AO, Marie Hardy, Brent Potter, Member for Fannie Bay and historians, Peter and Sheila Forrest.



NT Administrator, Professor Hugh Heggie & Peter Forrest with Parap Primary School children



Jeremy Hemphill, Heather Boulden, Merry Cooper, Mark Ames



Judy Boland, Jared Archibald & Marie Hardy



Julie Mastin & Ron Innes



John & Marie Hardy