

Historical Society of the Northern Territory

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2026

PO Box 40544, Casuarina NT 0811

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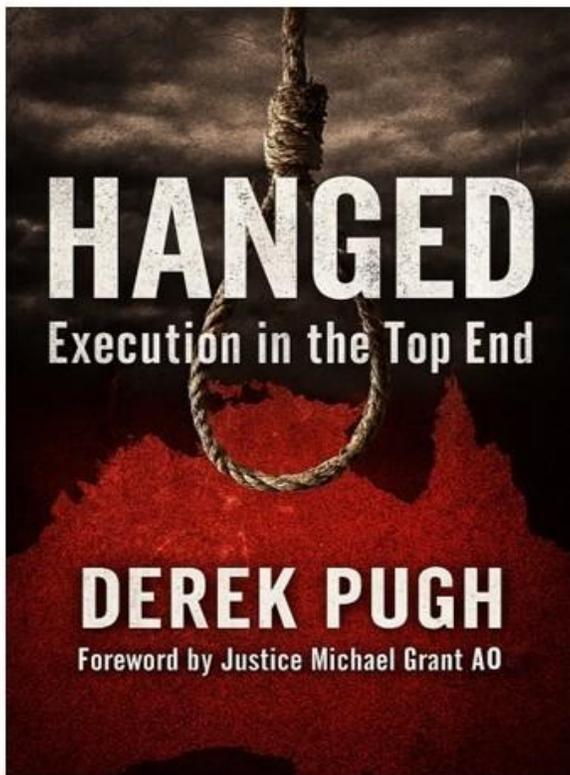
Email: hsnt@iinet.net.au Newsletter Editor: Bev Phelts

HSNT Committee – President: Derek Pugh; Vice President: Bev Phelts; Secretary: Libby Siebert; Treasurer: Clare Corfield. others - Brian Reid, Clayton Fredericksen, Matthew James, Jane Munday, Vida Goodvach & Peter Siebert

FUTURE EVENTS

Saturday 7 March - Parap Markets HSNT Book Stall

Janie will be running our first book stall for the year.



Book Launch

11 March 2026, 5-6:30pm

Supreme Court, Darwin

To be launched by

Chief Justice Michael Grant AO

Ten men were hanged for murder in the Northern Territory of Australia. Of these, six were Aboriginal, two were Chinese, and two were Czech 'New Australians'. Three were executed on country as a warning to their respective clans and the remaining seven are buried in unmarked and forgotten graves within the walls of Darwin's Fannie Bay Gaol.

For the first time, Derek Pugh brings their extraordinary stories together in a detailed historical account of all the judicial executions in Australia's Northern Territory up to the last two, in 1952. Pugh explores not only the lives of the ten condemned men, but also their victims, and the Territorians who judged, witnessed, and remembered them.

RRP \$39.95

Saturday 21 March -Museum and Art Gallery- Exhibition in Focus | Unruly Days: Territory life 1911 – 1921 – 11am-noon

Join MAGNT Curator of Territory History, Jared Archibald, for an in-depth tour of the exhibition.

The Northern Territory has always been a land of contrast and extremes. From its monsoonal Top End to its arid interior, larger than life characters, bountiful resources and highly diverse society – life in the Territory has always been different to the norm. Utilising a wide range of objects, photographs and stories, *Unruly Days: Territory life 1911-1921* explores what it was like to live in the Territory in the first decade of Commonwealth rule whilst the world was in turmoil. Join MAGNT Curator of Territory History, Jared Archibald, for an in-depth tour of the exhibition.

Flix in the Wet will continue until 29 March - Museum and Art Gallery Theatre –

A series of films shown at MAGNT. The first film is titled “Urchin” and commences at 7pm.

See link for the film program [Flix in the Wet Show Times](#)

Wednesday 25 March – Speaker – Donella Young- Saltwater Café, Museum & Art Gallery

8.30-9.30am

Donella will talk about the Larrakia Cultural Centre which currently under construction and due to open later this year. This is an Australian Museums and Galleries Association free event

Sunday 29 March at 3pm - Historical Society's AGM

The Historical Society will be holding its AGM at History House. Please come along and support us. Drinks and nibbles will follow the AGM. If you are interested in being on our committee, a nomination form along with the agenda are at the end of this newsletter. The AGM minutes of 23 March 2025 are attached

History House is located at 1/16 Charlton Court, Woolner. Charlton St is off Bishop Street (look for pink Middis Lighting). Turn into Charlton Street then first right into Charlton Court. History House is at the bottom of the court.

Sunday 12 April at 3pm at History House– Motorbike Ride Around India

Derek Pugh will be talking about his recently completed trip on a motorbike around India taking in sections of the Old Silk Road and heritage sites.

Sunday 10 May at 3pm at History House– Film Showing– *Twenty to the Mile*

In a remote corner of the Northern Territory, 150 years ago, two pieces of wire were bound together, and Australia was instantly connected to the world. In this documentary to mark the Overland Telegraph’s 150th anniversary, Derek Pugh retraces the line, unearthing stories of remarkable endurance, survival, massacre, and courage. The Film had previously been shown at the Deck Chair in 2024 to a packed out audience.

Mystery \$40 Deposit

A \$40 deposit was made into our ANZ bank account on 13 Feb with no name against the deposit. It is obviously a membership renewal. Could the member who made the deposit, please let us know via email.

NT History Book Award

The Award is now open and will close on 6 April.

To apply for the Northern Territory History Book Award your book must be all of the following:

- a work on Northern Territory history
- published in English or one of the First Nations languages of the Northern Territory
- offered for general sale published between 1 January and 31 December 2025 and
- you must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident to enter.

For more information, go to

<https://lant.nt.gov.au/northern-territory-history-book-award>

Vale Loraine Braham 1938-2026

Ms Braham was the first woman to serve as Speaker of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly and the first woman from Central Australia to be appointed to the NT Cabinet. She was also an alderman on the Alice Springs Town Council and a CLP member for Braitling. She passed away in Alice aged 87 on 8 January 2026. The NT Government will hold a state memorial on 23 April at the Alice Springs Convention Centre at 11am. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
3pm Sunday 29 March 2026**

Welcome and thanks

Present

Apologies

- 1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 23 March 2025**
- 2. Business arising from minutes of AGM**
- 3. President's Report**
- 4. Treasurer's Report**
- 5. Election of Office Bearers**
 - **President**
 - **Vice President**
 - **Honorary Secretary**
 - **Honorary Treasurer**
 - **Council Members [up to 8]**

6. Other business

**Nomination Form
Historical Society NT, PO Box 40544, Casuarina NT 0811**

I,
[please print]

hereby accept the nomination for the position of

.....
[please print] on the Council of HSNT 2026/2027

Signed :

Nominated by :
[please sign & print]

Seconded by :
[please sign & print]

Date :

HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST EVENTS

The Society's annual booksale was a great success with around 70-80 people attending. Big thanks to our book donators Clayton Fredericksen, Albert Foreman, Jan Richardson, Jim Leach, & Wendy Asche



Derek Pugh, John Krumbeck, Neville Jones, Ian Anderson & Eddie Webber



Merry Cooper, Mark Ames & Jan Hills



Paige Taylor, Neville Jones & Jared Archibald



Jenny & John Krumbeck



Julie Pudney & Penny Baird



Col Beard, Marnie Cameron & Judy Beard