# Historical Society of the Northern Territory

## NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2026

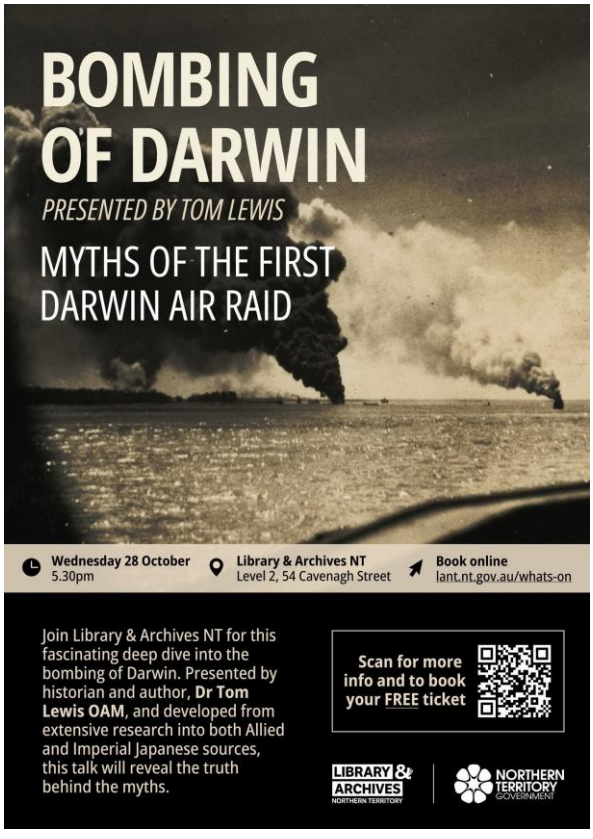
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Email: hsnt@iinet.net.au Newsletter Editor: Bev Phelts
HSNT Committee – President: Derek Pugh; Vice President: Bev Phelts; Secretary: Libby Siebert; Treasurer: Clare Corfield. others - Brian Reid, Clayton Fredericksen, Vida Goodvach, Rosemary Cameron & Peter Siebert

**FUTURE EVENTS**

**Saturday 24 October – History Colloquium at the NT Library & Archives 9am-5pm**
A day of history talks on a variety of topics. Proudly presented by the Professional Historians Association (NT) in partnership with Charles Darwin University and Library & Archives NT. The Society will be selling new books but old stock at the Colloquium. Starting prices from $2/$5. Cash Only!!!
Entry is free. Come for one talk or stay the day. The program is attached

**Sunday 25 October – HSNT 8th Annual Oration at History House – Speaker Dr Jeff Swann**
Jeff will talk about his Canning Stock Route 4WD trip along with lots of photos that highlight his adventure. The Canning Stock Route opened in 1910 and is a track that runs from Halls Creek to Wiluna in the mid west of WA. With a total distance of around 1,850 km (1,150 mi) it is claimed to be the longest historic stock route in the world. Drinks and nibbles follow the talk.

**Wednesday 28 October at 5.30pm at NT Library & Archives, Cavenagh Street**



**Saturday 7 November - Parap Markets HSNT Book Stall**
Janie will be holding a book stall at the markets. Plenty of new books and great prices to chose from. Subject to the weather, Janie will be running the book stall on 5, 12 & 19 December and 2 January. If you need any last minute Christmas presents – buy a book!



**Sunday 6 December - HSNT Christmas Soiree at History House – 3pm-5pm**

Members are welcome to attend. Finger foods, baileys, gin, champers & orange juice will be available and good company.

If you are coming, please let us know by Friday 27 November

Bev - email: hsnt@iinet.net.au or 0417868827 (leave a message)

**Membership for 2027 (January to December 2027) 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 pay on line via credit card on our 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.

This will be the last newsletter for the year. The Historical Society Committee wishes all our members a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year. We shall see you all in 2027.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST EVENTS

### MAGNT Backroom tour

Our wonderful guides Jared and Paige showed us a variety of interesting objects – such as Darwin glass soft drink bottles with “marbles” dating back to the 1900s, Nurse Ellen Kettle’s uniform, Ludmilla Holtzes’ shawl, a Cashmans wrapper, a Chateau Hornsby wine label, a small hand gun that had been buried for many years and opium bottles.





The Historical Society’s collection.



left: Bev Phelts, Frieda Evans, Derek Pugh, Jeff Swann, Paige Taylor, Penny Baird, Heather Boulden, Marnie Cameron, Sharleen, Jeremy Hemphill, Jared Archibald, Sachiko Hirayama. Photo courtesy MAGNT

**Launch of *Territory Treasures***

About 100 people attended the launch on the beautiful grounds of Burnett House.

Yiwarr McGrath, Member for Mulka spoke on his hypothesis on how the coins found their way to Arnhemland and launched the book.




Yiwarr McGrath, Member for Mulka launching the book



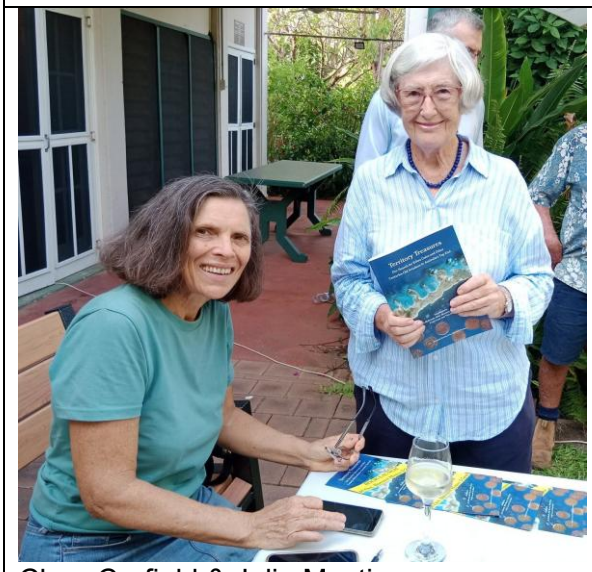
Yiwarr McGrath with the authors, the Pastmasters,



Brian Reid, Richard Luxton & Ian Anderson



Jared Archibald, Penny Baird & Allan Mitchell



Clare Corfield & Julie Mastin



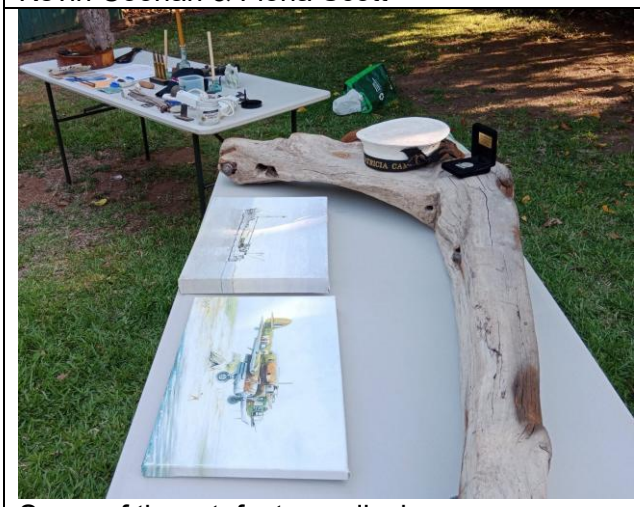
Merry Cooper & Col Beard



Kevin Coonan & Fiona Scott



Jared Archibald, Janet Leather & Eddie Webber



Some of the artefacts on display





Christopher Doukas with the 250 year old swivel gun he found in 2010 on Dundee Beach. He found the 107cm-long gun, an anti-personnel light artillery piece, buried in the sand during low tide. It is believed that the gun belonged to Macassan or Indonesian seafarers who lost it around 1760.



The audience