

Historical Society of the Northern Territory

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 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 3 October - Parap Markets HSNT Book Stall

Janie will be holding a book stall at the markets. Plenty of new books and great prices to choose from.

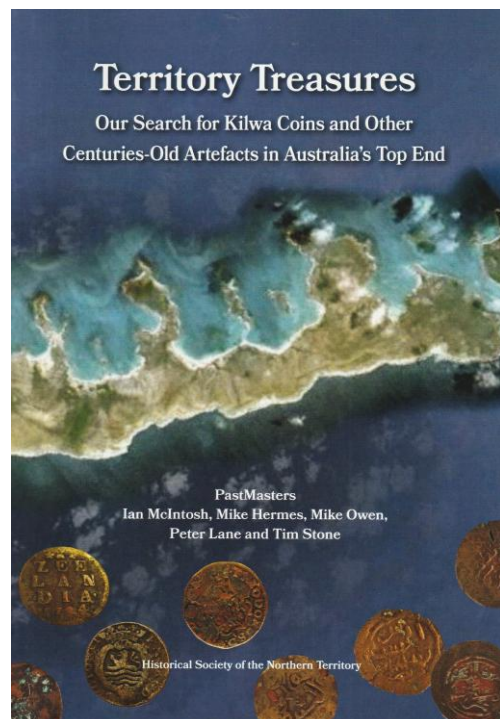
Tuesday 6 October – Backroom tour - at the Museum & Art Gallery -11am-noon

Paige Taylor, Assistant History Curator will be leading us on a tour of what is behind closed doors. The tour will mainly focus on the Society's artefacts. Numbers are limited to 12. It is a first in, best dressed. Members must wear closed in shoes and be able to stand for an hour – no leaning on walls or on objects.

I have one place left. If you wish to attend, please advise via email: hsnt@iinet.net.au

Friday 16 October – Book Launch at Burnett House at 5pm

The Society's newest publication ***Territory Treasures: Our Search for Kilwa Coins and other Centuries Old Artefacts in Australia's Top End*** will be launched at Burnett House. The book written by Ian McIntosh et al. will be launched by the PastMasters. The book will be on sale for \$35 CASH preferred.



The discovery of medieval African coins in Arnhem Land from Tanzania is a great mystery.

The coins were found by an Australian serviceman during World War2. Since 2013, the authors have been searching for clues on this rare discovery. By what means, and how did these coins find their way to Arnhem Land 10,000km away.

This book offers a range of hypotheses and demonstrates that the Yolngu of Arnhem land were involved in maritime trading well before the arrival of the Macassan trepangers during the 1700s.

Saturday 24 October – History Talks: History Colloquium, NT Library

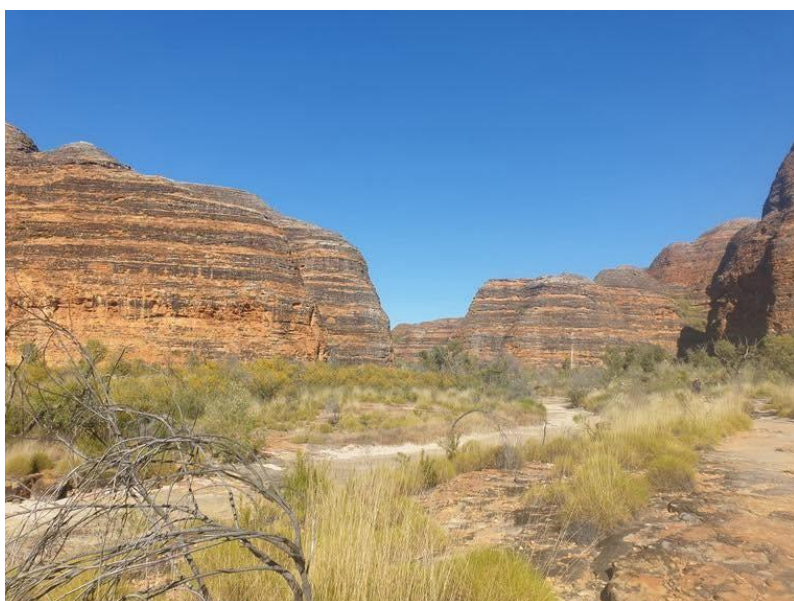
The annual History Colloquium organised by the Professional Historians Association will be held at the NT Library. The program will be out soon.

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.



The Canning Stock Route



Scenery along the stock route



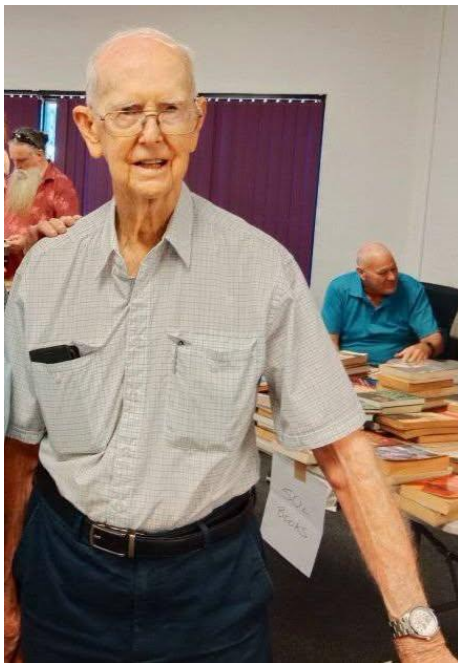
Sunday 6 December - HSNT Christmas Soiree at History House – 3pm-5pm

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)

VALE Dr Albert Foreman OAM - 1931-2026



Albert was a long term Historical Society member and only had just closed his ear, nose and throat practice in Brinkin at the age of 95. He marked 50 years of medical practice and before that as a civil engineer in Central Australia and the Barkly.

He wanted to spend his retirement writing a book. There was no stopping him!

For more information about his remarkable career, see the ABC's story on this iconic Territorian.

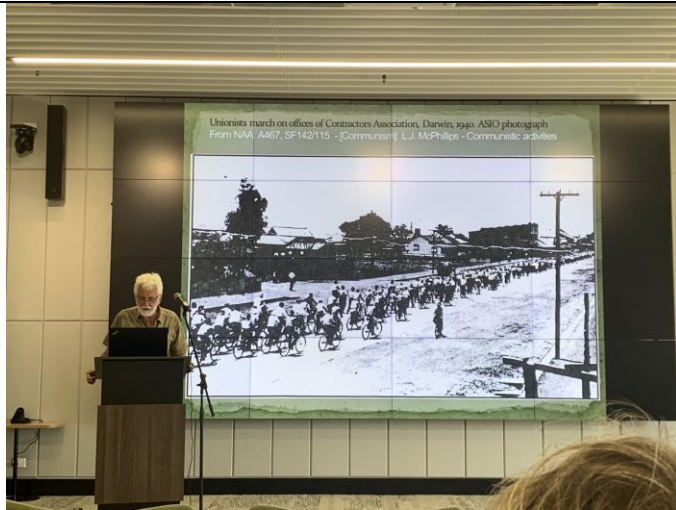
We are deeply sadden to hear of his passing in his sleep on 20 August. He and Jenny will be sorely missed at our functions and our annual book sale.

Condolences to Jenny and family.

Albert's funeral was held on Friday 4 September at Darwin's Christ Church Anglican Cathedral.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST EVENTS

The launch of *A Judicious Use of the Wheel: The Bicycle in the Northern Territory 1890s-1950s* at the NT Library & Archives. Photographs courtesy Clayton Fredericksen



Steve introducing his book



NT literary Awards Held on 23 September

Congratulations to member Mark Ames who was a finalist in the Flash Fiction Award.

Photographs courtesy Mark Ames



Mark Ames & Merry Cooper

