

Peach Trees Gazette

Peachester History Committee Inc. Newsletter
Number 189 ~ August September 2023

NEWS AND COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST: Lunch Meeting at Peachester Community Hall from 11.00am. Lunch to share as usual. We will be showing the film "100 years of Maleny Show" produced recently by Reflected Image Productions for SCC, to commemorate the Show's Centenary – many connections with Peachester.

SUNDAY 27TH AUGUST: Regular 4th Sunday open day at the Heritage Centre, 10.00am to 2.00pm.

SUNDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER: Father's Day breakfast, and as a special treat for the fathers (so they don't have to do the cooking at the hall this year) we are going out for breakfast! Glasshouse Mts Tavern, 8.00am – order individually on arrival. Elaine has booked for our PHC group, however the Tavern need to know a definite number well ahead, so please tell us at the August meeting if you can come, and others let Elaine know ASAP.

FRIDAY 8TH & SATURDAY 9TH SEPT: Glasshouse Country Orchid Show at Beerwah Hall (see flyer p 5), always a wonderful display.

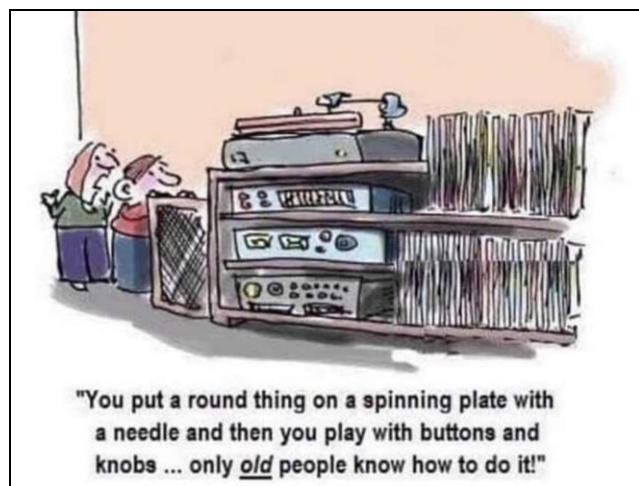
SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER: Regular Heritage Centre open day, 10.00am to 2.00pm.

FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER: SAVE THIS DATE! A special film evening to commemorate the Battle of Beersheba which took place on 31st October 1917, featuring Australian film "Forty Thousand Horsemen". More details next newsletter.

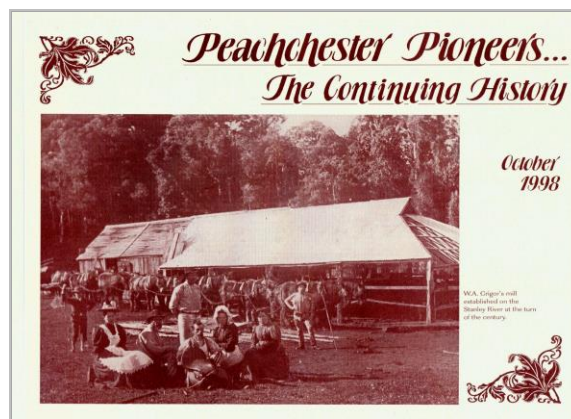
Any questions or bookings, please contact:

Helen (54949557), Trudy (0421 760810)

CAN YOU RELATE? (Hold onto those skills!)



PHC CELEBRATES 25 YEARS



In July 1998 the Peachester Hall Committee called a meeting of people interested in helping with a new edition of the local history book *Peachester Pioneers*. The Peachester History Committee was created, and here we are twenty-five years later, celebrating that milestone.

Over the years we have had a busy program: meetings, hosting reunions, old time film evenings, bus trips, workshops, research and publication of several more local history books. We have also worked with SC Council caring for Peachester Cemetery, introducing the Memorial Walls, and we have hosted the Remembrance Day service there each year since 2007.

Many of our early members are no longer with us, but their knowledge and inspiration remain, and they will always be part of the PHC story.

While functioning very successfully from the Peachester Community Hall, there was always the dream of having our own building. After much serious consideration and fundraising, in 2019 this dream became a reality with the official opening of the Peachester Heritage Centre at the rear of the hall.

Since then, although interrupted for a while by Covid, members have been busy documenting and caring for our local history collection and managing the Heritage Centre. We love to share the collection with visitors, and are pleased to see people on our advertised open days and for group tours.

For our July meeting we celebrated the highlights, friendships, fellowship, and achievements of the past 25 years – with old photos and memorabilia to help remember the journey, and an anniversary cake.



Members who were present at that first meeting (Bruce, Helen, John and Jan) cutting the 25th anniversary cake

THE CHURCH BELL STORY CONTINUED

Readers may remember that late last year we reported on receiving into our PHC collection the bell from the former St James Anglican Church at Beerwah.

The bell had been in storage for many years before it came to us, and volunteers embarked on a project of cleaning and conservation. Then the question arose as to how we could display the bell, perhaps even occasionally use it for its original purpose.

Recently Bill Morgan undertook the task of building a mobile frame so the bell could be stored and/or displayed as needed. The final photo shows the finished frame, with the timber now oiled for preservation, together with some members of the team who have worked on the project at various stages. A great outcome – thanks and congratulations to all!



FAREWELL TO MARGIE MANDER

It was so sad recently when we heard that our friend and PHC member Margie Mander had passed away. You will recall that although we have seen Margie less frequently over the last few years since she moved to Erowal at Maleny, she has been a member of PHC almost since the beginning.

Always cheerful and enthusiastic about our activities, Margie was a committed member of our organisation and a dear friend to all.

The following tribute was written by one of Margie's missionary associates, and tells us something of her quite remarkable life before she settled in our district. The photos are from our PHC collection: with Nessie Pratten in 2009, and (next page) at the Australian War Memorial Canberra with Jocelyn, Ethel and Helen in 2013.



Steve Walsh (Coordinator Church of Nazarene) writes:

Retired Aussie missionary Margie Mander promoted to glory

Warmest condolences and deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Margaret Elizabeth Mander, retired Australian Nazarene missionary to Papua New Guinea, who went to be with the Lord early on Friday, 2 June 2023, at the age of 76.

Elsewhere long-time friend Val Thomson wrote: "It is with great sadness that the Mander family announce the death of Margaret Elizabeth Mander (awesome Margie). Margie passed away peacefully at 9:00 am this morning, Friday 2 June 2023."

ANWD DS Rev. Tim Burton wrote: "We offer our prayers to support all those saddened and affected by this loss, with our hope for Margie now enjoying the eternal celebrations of heaven being communicated as well."

Born 24 June 1946 in Queensland, Margie was one of the four children of Bess and Arthur Mander, a storeman. As a child, Margie attended Virginia State School in the northern suburbs of Brisbane from January 1952 and Domestic Science State High School in West End, Brisbane from January 1960. By 1968, the family had moved to Corinda, a southern suburb of Brisbane, and Margie had become a member of the former Mt Gravatt Church of the Nazarene (now Capalaba) and also a trained nurse.

In 1970 Margie travelled to Kudirjip in the highlands of the then Territory of Papua and New Guinea, where she served for an initial 2-year term as a nurse at the Nazarene Hospital that had opened in 1967. Among her duties was riding her small red motorcycle into remote areas like the Jimi Valley to provide community health care.

In 1973 Margie studied for 12 months at Nazarene Bible College, then located in Thornleigh, a suburb of Sydney.

In 1975 Margie was appointed by the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene to serve as a missionary nurse at the Nazarene

Hospital in Kudjip, serving as a nurse educator in the Nazarene School of Nursing until 1985.

During her furlough, in 1979 and 1980, Margie served as the Dorm supervisor at Nazarene Theological College, which had relocated to Thornlands, near Brisbane in 1976.

After moving to Glass House Mts on the Sunshine Coast, Margie established Margie's Baby Clinic Service. She was leader of a youth group in the Wesleyan Methodist church, and was later active in the local Uniting Church.

Passionate about local history, Margie was a member of the Glasshouse History Group, Peachester History Committee, and the Friends of Bankfoot House.

Margie will be missed by her family, friends and all who knew her.

(NOTE: This tribute has been edited slightly for the Gazette.)



MALCOLM MEIKLE 1932 – 2023

Another farewell – PHC distance member and supporter Malcolm Meikle passed away in April, and our sympathy goes to all his family and friends.

The following is taken from the eulogy compiled by Malcolm's sons Garry and Jeffrey, and these photos are also from the PHC collection.



Jones family descendants at Heritage Centre opening in 2019, Malcolm centre with walking stick.

The family eulogy commences "Dad was born Douglas Malcolm Comrie Bernoulli Meikle on 4th of October 1932. Fortunately, he just liked to be called Mal."

Malcolm was born at "Glencoe," Beerwah, (home of local midwife Mrs Ellen Hume), the eldest of three children to Thomas and Gwendoline Meikle, with brother Paul, who passed away in 2010, and sister Anne.

Thomas was a Scottish immigrant and farmer in the Peachester district, and Gwendoline was the third of four daughters of Inigo Jones, long range weather forecaster, and Marion (nee Comrie).

Her grand-parents were Owen Jones, a civil engineer and farmer, and Emilie (nee Bernoulli).

Malcolm was very proud of his ancestry. Apart from Inigo and Owen, there was Daniel Bernoulli, a famous Swiss mathematician and physicist in the 18th century.

Despite the impressive family heritage, times were tough growing up during the depression and then the Second World War.

Malcolm went to Crohamhurst School to grade 6, but for grade 7 he attended Peachester School in order to qualify to go on to high school, staying with the Shuttlewood family in Peachester. He then boarded at Brisbane Boys Grammar school for three years.

The eulogy continues: Dad, Uncle Paul and Aunty Anne had it pretty tough in their early years. Apart from the depression, their father Thomas served in the army in Singapore and Java for five years, three of which he spent in a Japanese POW camp. Sadly, in 1946 soon after Thomas returned to Australia, their mother Gwendoline passed away from Melanoma ... she was only 37 years old.

When Malcolm turned eighteen, he joined the Royal Australian Air Force, serving for six years with the trade of Instrument Fitter, and his rank was Leading Aircraftsman.

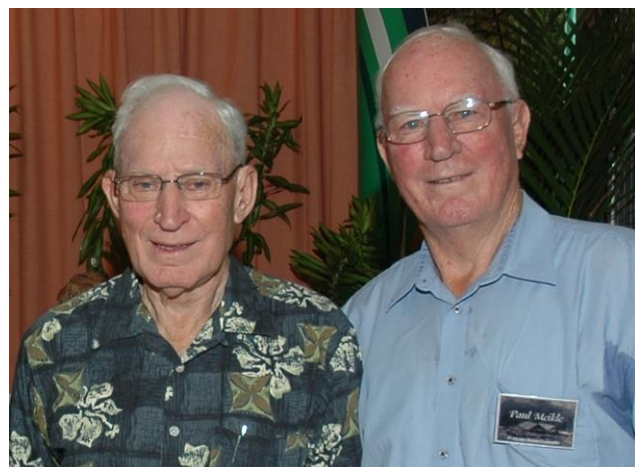
In November 1950, 18-year-old Mal went to a 4KQ Young People's Dance where he met Eunice May Sharpe. Two and half years later, on 18 April 1953 Mal and Eunice were married, and were together for over 64 years until Mum passed away in 2017.

After leaving the Air force in October 1956, Mal took on a job at NCR (National Cash Registers) installing and repairing cash registers. At that time NCR employed a lot of people who had technical roles in the Air Force as their skills adapted well to working on cash registers. Dad liked working at NCR and was there for 35 years.

After retiring in 1992, Mum and Dad travelled both overseas and throughout Australia. They loved the travel but I think that what Dad loved most was getting to meet and talk to different people.

After Dad had a couple of serious falls in 2021, we all agreed that it was time for him to move into a nursing home. Dad was reluctant at first, but after only a few weeks in the St Vincent's Nursing Home at Carseldine, he loved it. As usual, Dad immediately made friends with everyone there and they all loved him and his sense of humour. Mind you, Dad was having his meals with retired Nuns so we were a little worried about some of the jokes he might tell them, but I think they loved them.

God bless you Dad, and thank you being such a great person, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend to so many people over the years.



Malcolm (left) and Paul Meikle at a PHC event in 2009

VERSATILE COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Our research into the district history via *Trove* historical newspapers turns up many gems! Browsing for items about local schools for our recent reunion project, we found many instances which showed what an important asset these small school buildings were for the community.

This report is from the *Chronicle and North Coast Advertiser*, 11 January 1918.

CROHAMHURST — NEW YEAR'S NIGHT

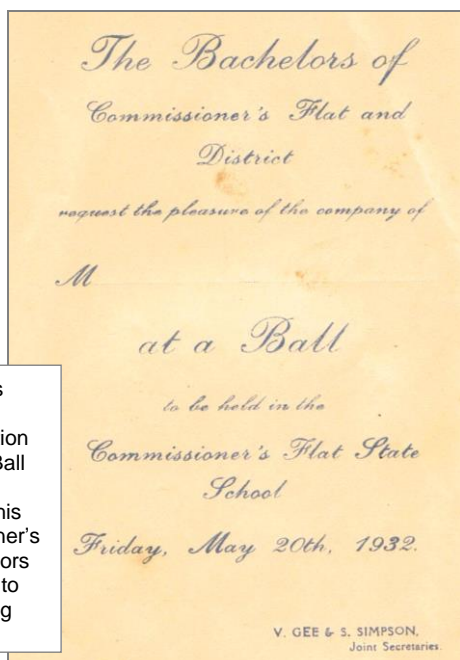
On New Year's Eve about sixty of the residents assembled at the State School in response to the invitation of the School Committee for the purpose of ushering in the present year.

The building was tastefully decorated with palms and Chinese lanterns and the effect was most charming. The chairman, Mr. J. Collins, in a few appropriate words bade the company welcome. Dancing was engaged in upstairs, the music being in the capable hands of Mr. Norman Hedges, while Messrs. Hume and Otto acted as M.C.s. Downstairs cards were an attraction, and as the night was warm, were well patronised.

At 11 p.m. that most important of all functions, supper, especially when in the capable and generous dispensation of the ladies, was served, and its attractions soon compelled the desertion of the ball room, and silence at the card tables. At midnight a bonfire was lit and its ruddy blaze illumined the grand old hills around, announcing that another year had faded into the past. The company gave expression to their mutual goodwill by joining hands for "Auld Lang Syne."

Some musical items were rendered during the evening. Mrs. Collins, who was in splendid voice, sang "Your eyes have told me so" and was rewarded with an ovation. Mr. Collins sang in his ever-welcome style and was greatly applauded. Mr. Victor Dawes, our rising violinist, was heard to great advantage in Squire's "Berceuse" and a selection of favourite airs, playing with a smooth round tone and a promise of a not far remote cantilena.

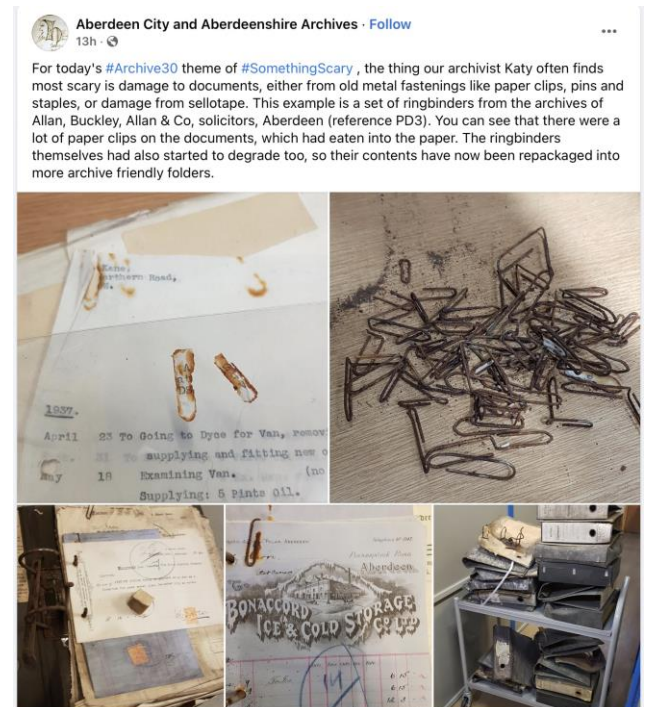
The company broke up early, as notwithstanding the gaiety of the heart, that inexorable period known as milking time has surely to be taken in account.



This document is from the PHC collection: Invitation to a Bachelors' Ball at another of our local schools – this time Commissioner's Flat – the bachelors no doubt hoping to meet some young ladies!

ADVICE FOR MUSEUM & HOME ARCHIVES

Get rid of those metal fastenings!



MORE ADVICE ... USES FOR WD-40

Ron Gillinder passed on this comprehensive list. Sounds American, but of course the problems are universal! (Can't fit it all in, just a selection here. Ask Ron for the rest.)

1. Protects silver from tarnishing.
2. Removes road tar and grime from cars.
3. Cleans and lubricates guitar strings.
4. Gives floor that 'just-waxed' sheen without making them slippery.
5. Keeps the flies off cows, horses, and other farm critters.
6. Restores and cleans chalkboards.
7. Removes lipstick stains.
8. Loosens stubborn zippers.
9. Untangles jewellery chains.
10. Removes stains from stainless steel sinks.
11. Removes dirt and grime from the barbecue grill.
12. Keeps ceramic/terracotta garden pots from oxidising.
13. Removes tomato stains from clothing.
14. Keeps glass shower doors free of water spots.
15. Camouflages scratches in ceramic and marble floors.
16. Keeps scissors working smoothly.
17. Lubricates noisy door hinges on home and vehicles doors.
20. Gives a children's slide a shine for a super-fast slide.
23. Lubricates tracks in home windows so easier to open.
26. Restores and cleans roof racks on vehicles.
27. Lubricates and stops squeaks in electric fans.
28. Lubricates wheel sprockets on tricycles, wagons and bicycles for easy handling.
30. Keeps rust from forming on saws and saw blades, and other tools.
33. Lubricates prosthetic limbs.
34. Keeps pigeons off the balcony (they hate the smell).
35. Removes all traces of duct tape.
36. Folks even spray it on their arms, hands, and knees to relieve arthritis pain.
39. WD-40 attracts fish. Spray a little on live bait or lures and you will be catching the big one in no time.

BOOK LAUNCH

Invitation from Neil Halpin

You are invited to the launch of a new book *Tall Tales True* on **Saturday 26 August**, 2.30pm at the Peachester Community Hall.

Neil says: "The inspiration for this book came from the many stories associated with my life working and travelling in forestry and related industries, such as farming. When I have shared these stories with others, they have been received positively. In some instances, I have chosen to use a form of bush poetry to capture the true sentiment of a story."

SCC CULTURAL HERITAGE NEWS

HERITAGE CALENDAR. It's time to dig out your old photos for the 2024 Heritage Calendar competition!

Submit your favourite photos of your fondest local holidays for a chance to be included in the 2024 calendar, 'Happy Snaps... Holiday times on the Sunshine Coast'.

Entries close 5pm Monday 14 August 2023.

Learn more <https://heritage.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/.../heritage...>



CALLING HISTORIANS!

Sunshine Coast Council is calling for historians to apply for the Historian in Residence program, now in its third year. There are two positions available.

Historians can select from a list of topics or research their own topic that is identified as a gap in Sunshine Coast's history.

Go to council's heritage website to download the guidelines and application form. Applications close 16 August 2023

For enquiries contact: culturalheritage@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au or phone 5420 8600.

This program is supported by the Arts and Heritage Levy.

From Guidelines: Identified Topics/Themes

- History of tourism development on the Sunshine Coast (such as roads, rail, marketing, branding, rebranding, pubs and hotels)
- History of Sunshine Coast cemeteries (including heritage listed cemeteries)
- True crime stories
- Shipwrecks, lighthouses, drownings and rescues (such as the Clark family's rescues on the Caloundra bar)
- Biographies for Bankfoot House personalities — suitable for Australian Dictionary of Biography entries
- A study into the Bankfoot House residents and/or those linked to the property
- Topic pertaining to Jinibara or Kabi Kabi peoples — by First Nations peoples.

If you have a topic/theme other than what is listed above that is new and unpublished, please phone 5420 8600 or send an email to culturalheritage@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au to discuss your topic.

Note: First Nations topics must show written approval by claimant groups prior to submitting an EOI. Topics that sit outside this program may have the potential to be supported by other areas of funding.

COMING EVENTS

Annual Glasshouse Country Orchid Spectacular – don't miss this amazing display!



Glasshouse Country Orchid Society's

2023 Spring Orchid Spectacular

FRIDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 8.30 am - 4.30 pm

SATURDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 8.30 am - 2.30 pm

BEERWAH COMMUNITY HALL

(entrance opposite Shopping Centre)

Admission:

Adults \$5

Children Free

★ Show Orchids and Foliage

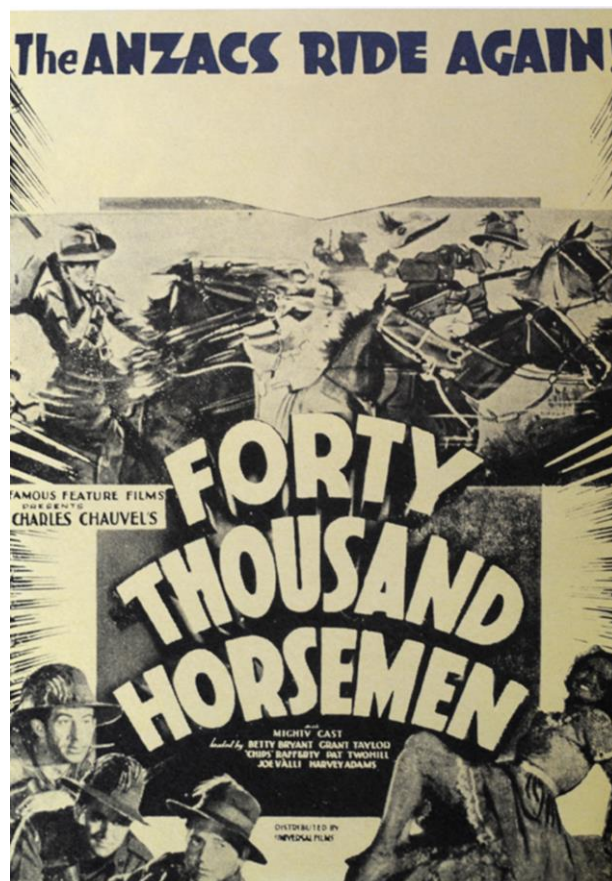
★ Plant Sales and Accessories

★ Refreshments

★ Expert Advice ★ Raffle

www.glasshouseorchids.com.au

Save this date for the next PHC Film Evening,
Friday 27th October. More details later.



OUT AND ABOUT

Photos in order: June meeting, July meeting, Preservation Needs Report, visit by David and Rosemary Brown and family (Inigo Jones descendants), PHC at Caboolture Heritage Day.

