

THE PIONEER

BUDERIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

October 2022

PATRON

Lorrell Jamieson

PRESIDENT:

Kevin Briggs 0488 021 894

VICE PRESIDENT:

.....[vacant]

SECRETARY:

Bev Lavarack 5445 1355

TREASURER:

Margaret Welshe 0414 452 722

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

Lorraine Buhk 5444 1955

Doug Benckendorff 5445 4683

Ruth Ormerod 5326 1740

John Nichols 0411 662 784

Geoff Baker 0435 068 241

CURATOR:

.....[vacant]

MEMBERSHIP:

Ian Jackson 0429 862 050

HISTORY TALKS:

Bev & Bill Lavarack 5445 1355

NEWSLETTER:

Bev & Bill Lavarack 5445 1355

DIARY DATES

HISTORY TALK

Saturday 1 October

2pm – Vise House

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday 22 October 10am – 3pm

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 26 November 7am – 2pm

At War Memorial Hall

CHRISTMAS SOIREE

Friday 2 December 2022 5pm -7pm

History Talk

1 October - Vise House 2:00 pm

New Photos of Old Buderim

Geoff and Janet Baker joined the Buderim Historical Society after retiring to Buderim in 2020. Many of the best images in the BHS collection (and also the Sunshine Coast Council's collection) have been used extensively in publications on the history of Buderim and the Sunshine Coast. In the course of mapping the overlap between these two local collections and the State Library of Queensland's collection, they have come across a number of digitised and non-digitised photographs of Buderim at the State Library that are not in the two local collections and that have not previously been published. Geoff will show us several of these images and discuss what they tell about Buderim's past.

Come along and view these images

AGM

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 10 September 2022 at Vise House with 15 members attending and eight apologies.

The existing committee was re-elected with two additional members, John Nichols and Geoff Baker – welcome John and Geoff.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT for 2022 AGM

Welcome

I wish to extend a warm welcome to all members who are in attendance for the AGM of the Buderim Historical Society Incorporated.

Covid 19

In the twelve months since our last AGM Covid 19 has continued to impact on visitor numbers, particularly those visitors from overseas. Covid restrictions severely impacted on school visitor numbers as Education Queensland restricted schools from taking part in excursions limiting numbers to the cottage. In January of this year health warnings from the government saw temporary closure of our trading hours.

Return of Visitors

School visits returned following the lifting of the ban on excursions, and I am pleased to be able to report that Buddina S.S., Peregrine Beach College and Sunshine Beach S.S. have all visited Pioneer Cottage in 2022, much to the delight of the young students and their supervising parents and teachers. Adult mature age day visitors are visiting the cottage in increased numbers as they search for an uncrowded day out on the beautiful Sunshine Coast. In more recent times we have had bus loads of retired visitors from the Toowoomba Garden Club and the Uniting Church at Bribie Island. All visitors have spoken highly of the collection contained within Pioneer Cottage and quality and cleanliness of exhibits. Open House Sunshine Coast will once again be happening in October, and we will be opening Pioneer Cottage on Saturday 22 October between the hours of 10:00am-3:00pm.

A new concept of *An Evening in the Museum* was trialled thanks to Jenny Christensen. The evening was successful and another is planned for the end of October. With the school holidays approaching we will again be participating in Sunshine Coast Heritage Museum Mystery Madness program along with 5 other localised museums.

Workforce

Of our 124 members some 30 plus are active volunteers across the various roles in our organisation. The vast majority of the volunteers work regularly as door guides on a monthly cycle expertly organised by Ruth Ormerod. Our healthy number of door guides in the last twelve months has allowed the cottage to recommence opening six days a week. Several guides work in dual roles helping with the cleaning and repairing of our collection while working as a door guide. Jess Harris who has been with us for some 23 years left to take up residence in Sydney last Monday and her role as Curator will remain vacant in the short term. We have been very fortunate to have members like Janet and Geoff Baker who have spent a tireless number of hours sorting, categorizing, and establishing a data base so that the images can be accessed by the Buderim Community. Buderim Historical Society would not be able to function at the professional level that it operates at without the quality and depth of volunteers that we have committing their time. It is with regret that we had the resignation of David Wood and Jess Harris from our membership. I thank David for the distinguished service that he provided to the Buderim Historical Society and for the care that he has provided for the upkeep of Pioneer Cottage and its collection. As a true gentleman he was an excellent leader who formed some formidable relationships with members with whom he crossed paths. I wish David well in the years ahead. Jess is a very quiet and humble person who gave us some 23 years' service as Curator. She managed the objects in our collection as if they were own. Her conservation and preservation skills have ensured the long life that our collection deserves. She was an excellent team player who trained and imparted knowledge and skills about our collection to other volunteers. We wish Jess and Stan well with her move to Sydney where she will have the support of her family in caring for Stan.

Gardens and Grounds

Pioneer Cottage and Vise House are surrounded by impeccable gardens and grounds that are constantly praised by visitors, and groups that use Vise House as a meeting venue. A large group of volunteers are responsible for the planting, pruning and weeding. The gardening team is led by our very responsible team leader Lorraine Buhk. Such is her leadership that I thought it appropriate to nominate her as Volunteer of the Year for the Buderim community and I am pleased to be able to report that she won this prestigious award. Another leader that has provided us with inspiration in the grounds area has been Doug Benckendorff who personally laid hard waring turf in the lawned areas of Pioneer Cottage and Vise House. Doug also put down a paved path that connected the back gate with the ramp used by our disabled visitors to the cottage. Doug did receive some assistance from other volunteers; however, the vast majority of the work was carried out by Doug. Our gardens and grounds are maintained by an enthusiastic group of volunteers.

Maintenance Issues

Unfortunately, we have been confronted with two major issues this year and I refer to the water and electrical issues. Both issues were related to age of our buildings. The electrical failure occurred in the periods of darkness associated with torrential rain. The light failures required the replacement of the switch board at Pioneer Cottage. The electrical work was carried out promptly by the local firm Keith Atkinson Electrical which eliminated the need to shut the cottage. The leaky roof which we have had for some time was explored and repairs were carried out by a local firm DYFA Plumbing. It is the plumber's belief that the fixing of the roof should have been done with screws rather than nails which loosen with expansion of a hot roof. We have engaged with Errol Richardson (BWMCA President) and Peter Connell from the Heritage Department at the Sunshine Coast Council regarding the replacement of the roof which will be a long and expensive process. At a cost to the council (\$7,304.00) Redleaf Environmental were engaged to prepare a report on the existing roof and to source possible revenue streams that BHS and BWMCA could explore. An early estimate would put a roof replacement cost at approximately \$90,000. We are currently working through the process involved which will allow the roof to be replaced. I thank all the parties involved in this process.

BWMCA Visit

A small BWMCA group visited our site and Ruth shared our WHS Policy and the inspections that we have regularly undertaken in Pioneer Cottage and Vise House. The group was very impressed with the quality of the policy written by Ruth and the way it had been implemented. The question of a roof replacement was discussed, and the outcome was that such an action would need to take place when possible. The funding of such a program would ultimately come from heritage grants, local, state and federal government grants and possibly Gaming Commission Capital Works Grants. BWMCA will allow us, as tenants, to apply for such funding streams and permission from the Department of Environment and Science (an Exemption Certificate) to carry out the roof replacement. Errol spoke of

the Buderim Foundation moving to an office space in the “Old Post Office” which has happened. The lack of meeting space at the new office will see the Foundation continue using Vise House as a meeting venue. The vacated office in Vise House will allow us to refigure the offices so that we can provide space in setting up an historical research area. Errol offered to explore ways in which the BWMCA could assist with creating more storage for our collection. I found our discussion fruitful and thanked him for the opportunity to have the discussion that we had.

Harcourts’ Project

Ken O’Flaherty and I met with Jarrad McCarthy, Principal at Harcourts Buderim to begin the process of helping to organise an historical timeline on Jarrad’s office wall in his new premises. The meeting took place on 21 April and was very productive. It will be a win for Jarrad’s new office and a win for Buderim Historical Society with exposure of some of our photographic collection. Bill Lavarack’s, thoroughly prepared Buderim Historical Timeline, formed the basis of the start of Jarrad’s project. The wall has become a montage of historical photographs and written historical intrigue. Janet and Geoff Baker have sourced and selected the photographs and suggested the written comment where required. The long hours and effort put in by the Bakers are to be commended and praised. The wall being used at Jarrad’s new office is a large wall in a common meeting room that the general Buderim public will be able to use for small meetings. It is partnerships like this that will strengthen our ties with the broader Buderim community.

Grants

Art Nuvo completed the restoration of our ten wall hangings in April. I picked up the 10 wall hangings and returned them back to the Vise House where images were recorded on e-Hive after being photographed by Ross Eason. The two most difficult works were the portraits of John Burnett senior and Anne Burnett. Both these works required cleaning and replacing missing sections of the frame plus re-gilding the frame. The result has been outstanding, and we look forward to the public viewing them in their new condition. Jess has asked for assistance from Ross Eason to help photograph all ten pieces of work that were part of our initial conservation project. Jess and Gail completed entering the data on e-Hive. We were able to immediately pay Art Nuvo thanks to the Heritage conservation grant that we received from the Sunshine Coast Council Grant. I thank Art Nuvo for the high-quality work undertaken to conserve and preserve our wall hangings.

We have a further grant application sitting with the Heritage Department so that our water damaged chiffonier can be returned to its former glory and the restoration of two donated objects. The objects are a 17th century chair and a 1897 watercolour painted by 19th century artist, Neville Cayley. We have acquitted our Partnership Grant and I wish to acknowledge the Sunshine Coast Council for their ongoing support in providing funds that help cover our fixed costs. Without these grants we would have to devote significantly more time and effort to our fundraising endeavors. This morning, Saturday 10 September, we were presented with a grant from the Buderim Foundation to help us establish an historical research facility in Vise House. The funds received, \$2478.00, will provide a computer and printing facilities for research purposes.



Social Fundraising Group

The SFG group is a collection of volunteers who go way beyond the general expectations that are held for BHS volunteers. While the group was initially set up to raise additional funds for our organisation their work has travelled beyond this. The annual Lions Christmas and Easter Fairs have always provided BHS with an opportunity to fund raise outside the regular sources of income such as door takings and sales of books. This year the SFG was very busy organizing departure/retirement send offs for David Wood in April and Jess Harris in August. Both morning teas and gift giving were greatly appreciated by David and Jess. SFG members regularly provide guides for events such as school excursions and bus trips such as the group from the Uniting Church at Bribie Island. A new attraction that commenced in May, that was suggested and led by Jenny Christensen, was the concept of *An Evening in the Museum*. Drink, food and friendship were the elements to make the evening a success. So popular was the evening the SFG will be conducting another evening on 29 October,. A group of SFG members also represented BHS at National Volunteers Week celebrations held at the Bloomhill Café where Lorraine Buhk was named as the Buderim Volunteer of the year for 2022. The Social Fundraising Group is a very active group offering critical support to the working mechanisms of BHS.

History Talks

I thank Bev Lavarack for organizing our very popular history talks which have not been made easy with the Covid restrictions being imposed on group gatherings. I would also like to thank Steve Ormerod who prepares the meeting room for the presentations and records a video for each of the speaker's presentations. The recordings are then held as a valuable resource for our organisation and the Buderim community.

History Talk titles:

- **Pioneer Women** – Susan Guy, a descendant of one of Buderim's earliest pioneers.
- **Business partners, James Low and William Grigor and the early timber getting on the Mooloolah and Maroochy Rivers** – Audienne Blyth, a descendant of the pioneering Low Family.
- **Buderim community projects where Buderim Historical Society had played a part** – Neil McGarvie.
- **Memories of work in remote Aboriginal communities 1964-1975** – Neil McGarvie.
- **Memories of work with Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education 1977-1991** – Neil McGarvie.
- **My Fortunate Life** – Simon Whittle.

Closing

In closing I wish to thank Bev for her secretarial skills, Marg for her accounting prowess, Ruth for her policy writing and enactment, Lorraine for her gardening skills, and Doug for his grounds keeping work. I also wish to thank all volunteers who ensure the daily operations of the Pioneer Cottage and the preservation of the historical objects housed within. I thank Bill Lavarack for his interest and skill in preserving the history of the Buderim community. I also wish to acknowledge Janet and Geoff Baker for the professional manner in which they have organised our photographic collection and used their skills to support community requests for photographic images helping to unpack Buderim's history.

I thank the Sunshine Coast Council and their heritage staff for the provision of financial and technical support. I thank the Heritage staff who have used their expert knowledge in providing quality professional development activities for our volunteers who choose to attend. Buderim Historical Society continues to receive support from the BWMCA who is the custodian of Pioneer Cottage and Vise House. We thank Ted O'Brien, the Member for Fairfax, Brent Mickelberg, the Member for Buderim and the Mayor Mark Jamieson and Councillor Ted Hungerford for their continued support and interest in our organization.

Kevin Briggs, President

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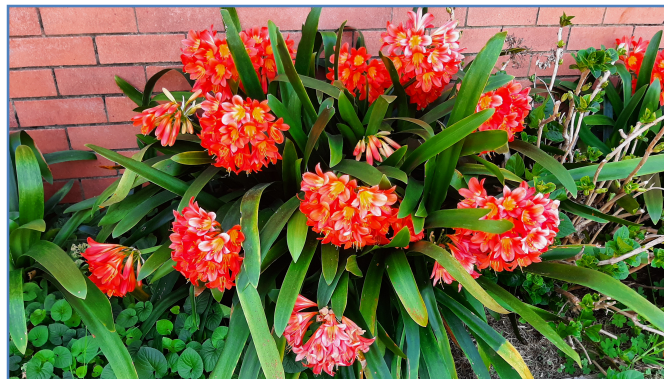
HARCOURTS' WALL – contribution by BHS.

Below is a photograph of the wall in the new Harcourts' office in Burnett Street. It shows a timeline of Buderim history, compiled by Geoff and Janet Baker and Bill Lavarack. Well worth a look, why not call in and admire it. Thanks to Jarrad McCarthy for his interest in the Buderim Community.



OPEN HOUSE - 22 OCTOBER 2022

Once again Pioneer Cottage has been invited to participate in the Sunshine Coast Open House event. The cottage will be open on Saturday 22 October from 10:00am to 3:00pm. No entry fee.



Clivias in the Cottage garden