



Historical Society of the Northern Territory

Patron: The Hon Austin Asche AC

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2013 NO: 69

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President's Report by Dr Brian Reid

2014 will be the 50th anniversary of the formal commencement of the Society. Not a bad effort for a reasonably small voluntary organisation. Like most such organisations it has had its ups and downs over the years but nevertheless operated continuously. It even survived Cyclone Tracy, something its collections at the time unfortunately did not. The Society was housed in Holtze's cottage in the Botanic Gardens and that, along with most of the Society's possessions were destroyed in the cyclone.

The Council has been giving a bit of thought for suitable commemorative projects for next year:

- we will have a larger, more celebratory, edition of our Journal
- we are going to detail as much as we can of the field trip past of the Society together with photos, stories and memories. Perhaps this will end up a suitable publication.
- we are beginning to explore the possibility of opening an eLibrary for our out of print publications. The idea is that they will be available for sale as an eBook.

More about all of these later but if anyone has any suggestions for our commemorative year we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Forthcoming Events

7-8 September - Alice Springs Annual Spring Flower Show – Saturday 1-4pm and Sunday 8 September 10am-3pm

The show will be held at the Residency (next to the Post Office).
For information ring 89 550240 or 89 536073

Thursday 12 September - Austin Asche Oration

Chief Justice Diana Bryant widely recognised for the role she played in establishing the Federal Magistrates Court will deliver this year's Austin Asche Oration titled "The Big Picture: Responding to Challenges Arising in International Family Law".

Chief Justice Bryant graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from Melbourne University in 1969 and has a Master of Laws from Monash University. Before her appointment to the Bench she practised as a family lawyer with a national firm in Perth and spent 10 years at the Victorian Bar, becoming a Queen's Counsel in 1997.

She has served on many boards and advisory groups during her career and has had a longstanding commitment to the advancement of women in the law. She is currently the Patron of Australian Women Lawyers, and a Board member of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. She received a Centenary Medal in 2001 for her role in the establishment of the Federal Magistrates Court. In 2012 she received an Order of Australia (AO) for her contribution to the judiciary and to the law, particularly to family law policy reform and practice, and to the advancement of women in the legal profession.

The Austin Asche Oration in Law and Governance will be held on Thursday, 12 September from 5:00 to 7:00pm at the Dining Room and Nitmiluk Lounge Level 4, Parliament House. The event is free and open to members of the public. The oration honours the contribution of The Honourable Austin Asche AC QC to the NT community.

RSVP to email: rsvp@cdu.edu.au or phone 8946 6554.

Wednesday 25 September – the HSNT Patrons Dinner - 6.30pm for a 7pm start

Dr Brian Reid will be our guest speaker who will show a powerpoint presentation on our recent trip to Rosewood, Kildurk and Lissadell Stations

The dinner will be held at the Mantra Pandanas on the corner of Knuckey and Litchfield Streets in the Kali Function Room. The two course dinner will be a drop dinner of either chicken and steak and two choices of desert. Vegetarians and others with special dietary needs can be catered for. The meal includes tea and coffee. Drinks can be purchased at the bar. Cost is \$40 per person.

If you wish to attend, please send cheque/money order to the HSNT PO Box 40544 Casuarina. Alternatively, you can pay via bank transfer. Email our Treasurer, Rosemary Chalmers for the bank details - rosechal@iinet.net.au

For any inquiries and RSVP email or ring Rosemary on 8932 6080.
RSVP is needed by Monday 23 September

Friday 27 September – National Trust & Historical Society Talk at Burnett House – 5.30 for a 6pm start

Our speaker will be Norm Cramp on “For King and Country Territorians in the Great War 1914 – 1918”

\$2 finger food – \$4 drinks
Nibbles after the lecture at 7pm. Bar will be open at 5.30pm.

Entry \$2 for members and \$5 for non members

Members and guests are reminded that food and drink cannot be taken inside Burnett House

Thursday 14 November - 27th Eric Johnston Lecture at the NT Library – 5.30pm

This year's Eric Johnson lecture will be delivered by Mr Bob Beadman. Mr Beadman spent more than five decades working for the Australian and NT Government. He was appointed as the Territory government's inaugural co-ordinator-general for remote services in May 2009.

This annual lecture fills a gap in Darwin's cultural calendar, dealing in depth with the Territory's culture and history. Topics can cover any subject provided that the central theme relates to the Northern Territory.

In NSW - Saturday 5 – Monday 7 October 2013 - Goulburn, Taralga & Crookwell Heritage weekend

Discover some of Goulburn, Crookwell & district's 20th century heritage architectural and landscape architectural delights. Learn from locals and knowledgeable experts. Tour some key sites. Enjoy bonhomie over meals in special places.

One, two and two & a half day options are available to suit. Booking details available <http://www.twentieth.eventbrite.com.au/>

Past HSNT Field Trips

The HSNT is documenting all past field trips. Below is what we can remember. The years of 1983, 1985, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1995 and 1997 are missing.

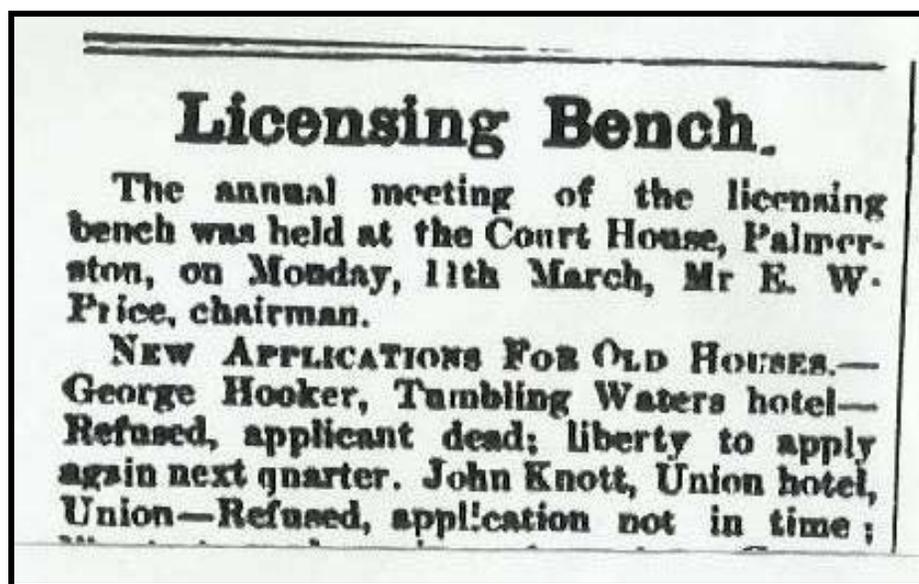
If any of our members can fill in the gaps we would really appreciate it - please contact the HSNT.

1982 Adelaide River; **1983 ?**; 1984 Mallapunyah Springs and Borroloola; **1985 ?**; 1986 Port Roper; 1987 Daly River; **1988 ?**; 1989 Point Stuart; **1990 ?**; **1991 ?**; 1992 South Alligator Valley; 1993 Maranboy; 1994 Roper River area; **1995 ?**; 1996 Oenpelli; **1997 ?**; 1998 Gurig National Park; 1999 Newcastle Waters; 2000 Gulf Country; 2001 Keep River and Wattie Creek; 2002 Newcastle Waters and Tennant Creek; 2003 Humbert Track and Gregory National Park; 2004 East Kimberley; 2005 Roper River – Gulf area; 2006 Victoria and Keep Rivers; 2007 (Proposed) Mary River National Park; 2008 Raffles Bay; 2009 Raffles Bay and Bradshaw Training Base; 2010 Raffles Bay, Powell Creek and Bradshaw Training Base; 2011 VRD; 2012 Pt Stuart visit and re-enactment; 2013 Rosewood, Kildurk and Lissadell Stations

A Snippet from the past

Provided by Rosemary Chalmers.

For your amusement an extract from the NT Times and Gazette, 16 March 1878



ANZAC Centenary Local Grants Program – applications now open

The Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program is providing \$100,000 per electorate, enabling and empowering communities across Australia to commemorate the Centenary of Anzac in their own way. Grant funding will be available in 2013-14.

All applications should be submitted to the Department of Veteran Affairs by 28 February 2014.

Further information (including guidelines and the application form) is available at www.anzaccentenary.gov.au/grants/index.htm

Recently published books by member, Robyn Smith

***Arcadian Populism: the Country Liberal Party and Self-Government in the Northern Territory* – by Robyn Smith – 2012 (self-published, Australian Society of Authors)**

This work explores the theory of Arcadianism and the practice of populism, applying both to the Country Liberal Party in the Northern Territory. Add 'imagined community', invention of [white] 'tradition' and race, and the context of the CLP's enduring political success is rounded out. A work of political history which explains contemporary NT politics, it is a must-read for anyone trying to understand how the Northern Territory fits into Australian federalism. Statehood? Not any time soon. The Northern Territory is lacking the political maturity to go it alone. Unless and until the rights of one-third of the population are recognised, articulated and incorporated into the governance of one of Australia's greatest opportunities, Frontier Politics will remain the 'colossal failure' Banjo Paterson described in 1888. With a Foreword by Dean Jaensch and a review by David Clune

www.aspg.org.au/pdf/Smith%20Review%20by%20Clune%20APR28%282%29.pdf

The book is available for \$33 online as an eBook: www.asauthors.org/book/arcadian-populism-the-country-liberal-party-and-self-government-in-the-northern-territory-1978

***Hakka: The Diaspora Leading to the Northern Territory* – Robyn Smith – 2012 (published by the Hakka Association of the Northern Territory)**

The Hakka are an ethnic minority of the Han Chinese. The word 'Hakka' means 'guest people' or 'strangers'. The reason for this is that over many centuries, the Hakka have been forced from their traditional lands in north central China to the southern provinces, which often pitted them against other Chinese groups in the search for land and sustenance. There have been several waves of Hakka migration from China. Collectively, these have been described as the 'Hakka diaspora' which has resulted in some 30 million Hakka living outside of China in various parts of the world. Migration took the Hakka to the Portuguese colony of East Timor, probably in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. There, the Hakka became farmers and business owners, liaison officers and diplomats. With civil war in East Timor in August 1975 followed by the Indonesian invasion in December of the same year, the Hakka once again found themselves dispossessed and fleeing for their lives. This time, the diaspora took them a little further south – to Darwin, Australia. *Hakka: the diaspora leading to the Northern Territory* documents the history of the Hakka, the history of Timor and profiles the lives of some Hakka residents of the Northern Territory.

Cost is \$20 and includes postage and handling.

Contact Monica Moura on 0438818119 or Henry Yap on 0418893062.