



NEWSLETTER



Sandgate & District Historical Society & Museum

Opening Hours: Wednesday & Sunday 9:00 am – 1:30 pm
(other times by appointment)

Phone: 3869 2283 Email: info@sandgatemuseum.com.au Web: <http://www.sandgatemuseum.com.au>
<https://www.facebook.com/SandgateHistoricalMuseum>

March 2026 - Vol 1

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members and Friends

As we move further into the year, there are several important updates and upcoming events I would like to share with everyone.

One of the biggest priorities for the society is the condition of our museum building. Unfortunately, over the years the building has deteriorated and is now at a point where significant work will be required to preserve it for the future.

We will soon be launching a GoFundMe campaign to support restoration and maintenance works. Alongside this, we will also be organising several events and fundraising opportunities.

This building holds an enormous amount of Sandgate's history, and we are committed to ensuring it remains standing for future generations. Please keep an eye out for announcements about how you can help support this effort.

The Bluewater Festival is fast approaching and once again the Sandgate Historical Society will be running the popular train rides between Sandgate and Shorncliffe on Friday 3rd April. This is one of our largest community events of the year and we would appreciate any volunteers who may be able to assist. Even an hour or two of your time would make a big difference. If you can help, please reach out and let us know.

Our current exhibition, "A Century of Love – Wedding Fashion and Traditions," is now on display at the museum. The exhibition explores how weddings have evolved over the decades, showcasing clothing, traditions and stories. It will remain on display until April 5, so we encourage everyone to come along and enjoy it.

The indexing project continues to progress well. As we have mentioned before, this is a very large and detailed task, and we are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated team working on it. This project will be an invaluable resource once completed, and we look forward to sharing more updates as it progresses.

A reminder that membership renewals are due on 1 April. Membership support is incredibly important for the society and helps us continue our work preserving and sharing Sandgate's history. If you have not yet renewed, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on 17 May. We would love to see as many members as possible to attend. The AGM is an important opportunity to hear about the society's progress, plans and how members can become more involved. We are always looking for more people to become active working members, so if you have ever considered becoming more involved, this would be a great place to start.

Thank you to all our volunteers, members and supporters who continue to help keep the Sandgate Historical Society active and thriving.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The museum's annual general meeting will be held at the museum on **Sunday 17 May at 2:00 pm.**



If you would like to nominate for a position on the management committee, your nomination would be very welcome. Forms will be emailed to all members and are available at the museum.

***Only financial members can nominate or vote.
Membership fees for 2026 due 1 April.***

A CENTURY OF LOVE ... WEDDINGS, FASHIONS AND TRADITIONS

Don't miss our wedding display featuring the fashions and traditions of weddings dating from 1862 through to the 1980s.

Step into a century of "I do" and see how wedding fashions have changed over the years – take a nostalgic look at wedding styles and traditions from different decades.



The display brings together bridal gowns, flower girl dresses, suits, fabric shoes, trousseau items, jewellery, bridal gifts, bouquets, toast lists and photos depicting churches, reception venues and wedding cakes and much more.

There are many stories of local family weddings including Kerri-Anne Kennerley (nee Wright) family connections and the Tucker family double wedding.

A big thank you to all who have lent their special items and especially to two of our volunteers, Cheryl and Hope, who have spent countless hours putting together this wonderful display. Thank you to Carmen from Damp Solutions Australia at Woody Point for the loan of a dehumidifier for the duration of the display.

We have extended our opening hours during the display:
February 18 to April 5 - Wednesday and Sunday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
In addition, during March: Saturday 11:00 am to 2:00 pm



Entrance Fee: Adults \$5 Children \$3 Members Free

GETTING TO THE CHURCH ON TIME - A TRUE STORY (Anon)

Weddings are typically organised with careful planning, as was the case for the ceremony involving my former spouse and me.

While my wife's sister's wedding had been planned for months to happen at the end of January, her family suggested our casually discussed wedding should join as part of a double wedding in just one month. A little rushed?

The big day My best man arrived at my bachelor pad with both his suit kit and my rented suit, ensuring we were prepared to dress appropriately for the occasion and perhaps to confirm that I would be present as planned. On his arrival I immediately unsheathed my suit from the flimsy clear plastic cover only to discover that the TROUSERS had not been included.



Only 2 hours to Mendelssohn's wedding march.

There was only one vehicle available - my own - and no mobile phones in 1973. Therefore, it was decided that the best man would return to the organiser's hub to inform them of the dilemma and possibly arrange for an emergency delivery of the missing lower portion. I gave him the keys to my VW beetle, in which reverse gear was engaged by a tricky manoeuvre of pressing down the floor-mounted gear stick and wriggling it around a bit. He appeared at the back door a few minutes later with the gearstick in hand. We now had a gearless VW as well as a gearless groom.

1hr:50 to go We jammed the stick back in the mount.

1hr:40 to go He arrived back 30mins later. No emergency delivery, but there was an old sombre black suit available at the hub, although in need of some considerable modification. Not quite the fashionable light grey suit.

1hr:10 to go For both of us a trip to the hub, then cuffs measured, hand-tacked up and a return to get dressed.

25 mins to go It was then I realised I had no black socks, having been in New Guinea for the past two years wearing only shorts and Bermuda knee-length socks. My landlord, next door, was only too willing to oblige with a pair.

15 mins to go To the church, park and walk.

5 mins to go I could say we assumed our positions nonchalantly, but that would be a lie.

Nevertheless, it stopped me wondering what the hell I was getting myself into.

Wide Racing Interest in Sandgate Wedding

Brian Alvisio – Betty Glover

(Sandgate Echo, Wednesday 30 June 1954, page 1)

“Many sporting friends were among the 100 guests who were entertained at Moora Park Rendezvous last Saturday following the wedding of Betty, eldest daughter of well-known Deagon horse trainer, Bob Glover, to prominent Brisbane jockey, Brian Alvisio. The reception room was decorated with coloured streamers representing the racing colours of the bride’s father.”



Moora Park kiosk -John Oxley Library



Tucker double wedding – 21 August 1907

Tucker double wedding

The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld) Saturday 31 August 1907 – Page 12

“The North Pine Methodist Church was crowded with spectators on Wednesday the 21 August 1907, the occasion being a double wedding of two sisters, Jessie Tucker to Herbert Williams, and her sister Edith Tucker to Robert Turner Jones. Both sisters had their other sisters, Ruby and Mabel Tucker as bridesmaids.

The brides were gowned alike in pretty toilettes of soft white silk, French bodices ornamented with bretelles of embroidered chiffon and silk applique. The Reverend James Williams, father of one of the bridegrooms, performed the ceremony assisted by Reverend Powell. About eighty guests were entertained at a wedding breakfast at the School of Arts.”

Staines – Dixon wedding 1951 1919 Marriage Certificate



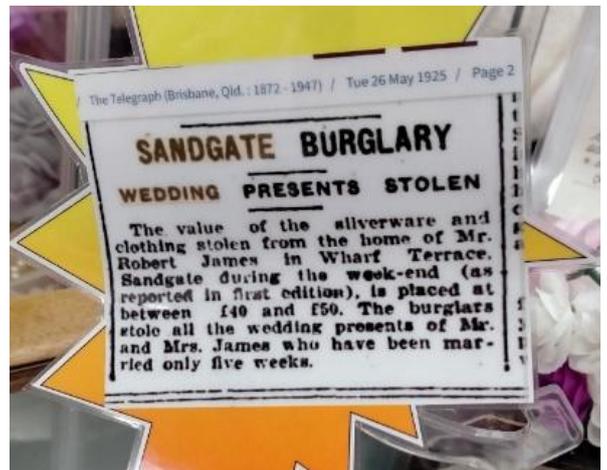
Brisbane Telegraph (Qld. 1948 - 1954) / Fri 19 Jan 1951 / Page 6 / Family Notices

STAINES—DIXON—On the 20th January, at 4 p.m., at St. Margaret's Church of England, by the Rev. Thompson, Benjamin Richard, Son of Mr. & Mrs. T. Staines, of Sandgate, to Ruby Lillian, Daughter of Mr. H. Dixon, of Bulimba.



Marriage certificate of Robert Francis and Lily Muller, Bracken Ridge - 11 October 1919

Wedding Presents Stolen



Article from The Telegraph – Brisbane Tues 26 May 1925



BLUEWATER FESTIVAL

Good Friday, 3 April



Start of the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race, Sandgate Pier, 1950 (John Oxley Library)

Once again, the museum will be running the festival train along the waterfront between the former Baptist Church and Shorncliffe Pier from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Volunteers are required to collect donations from train users. If you could offer an hour or two between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm please contact the museum. Any help would be much appreciated.



We are also hosting Devonshire Tea at the museum from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm for only \$10.00.



While enjoying tea and scones, take the time to admire our 'Century of Love - Weddings, Fashions and Traditions' display where you will step into a century of "I do" and take a nostalgic look at wedding styles and stories through the years.

MARITIME LANTERNS

The lanterns shown are maritime lanterns, or clipper ship lanterns, where a red lantern was used to mark the port (left) side of a ship and green to mark the starboard (right) side, to help navigate around other ships at night.



WAR MEMORIAL OPENING - 1924

A large crowd gathered for the official opening of the War Memorial at Sandgate on 24 February 1924 by the Governor Sir Matthew Nathan, to commemorate those men who had been killed in the recent World War 1 1914 - 1918.

The inscription on the memorial stone (on the reverse side to that containing the names of the "Fallen") was taken from the poem Anzac's Dead written by W H Lister.

"They died, and yet in memory shall they live
That we may know the worth of sacrifice;
Know that their death in freedom's cause
Stands as a beacon light, to point the way
To paths of peace."



Photograph from estate of Mitchell/Barbour – donated 2007

In the background can be seen Vic Stone's General Store, Isaac Best's Butcher, Eric Decker's Auction Mart and Lewis Furniture Mart.

SANDGATE - 1866

One of the researchers at Nundah & Districts Historical Society forwarded the following article.

The Queenslander, Saturday 15 September 1866 p8

SANDGATE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

OUR cheerful little township is looking very deserted just now. The hotels and lodging-houses might as well be closed for all the business they are doing; but the hope of better times, as the summer advances, buoys them up for the present. During the early part of the winter—even when the roads were bad—we had a fair number of visitors; but our Brisbane friends must have been lately transformed into angels, for their visits are now “few and far between.” This is easily accounted for; the people who come to Sandgate are expected to have a little money to spend, and in the present state of trade in Brisbane it would be difficult to find a man who can spare a pound or two out of the profits of the week's business.

However, notwithstanding the dulness of the times and the depression of trade, we are advancing. Land in and about the place is keeping up its full value. It is difficult to sell, but where any private sales are effected, the price is equal to what might be expected in the most prosperous times.

We have some buildings springing up around us. At Sandgate, Mr. Cooksley is building a brick house, which may answer as a hotel or a furnished lodging-house; and Mr. Hutchins has got up a store. At Brighton a Mr. Murphy is building a very good house, and Mr. Doyle, the solicitor, I am informed, will commence immediately to have his cottage erected in time to enjoy it during the summer. These, with a boat pier and bathing house opposite the Brighton Hotel, are the only works I have heard of as likely to be carried out here at present.

As soon as the boat pier is finished, Mr. Mason, of the Brighton, purposes erecting a flag-staff by which he can telegraph to the shipping, and invite the captains to come ashore to enjoy some of the good things for which Mrs. Mason's *cuisine* has become so famous.

A small boat pier here will be of great advantage; it will afford facilities to the store-keeper, the butcher, and gardener, to open up a profitable trade with the shipping.

Sir George, Lady Bowen, and suite, will be coming down here shortly to occupy their marine villa for the summer. Before they start, I would suggest that a few of the unemployed navvies be sent with their picks and shovels to level two hills—the one between the Albion Hotel and the German Station, the other on this side the German Station. They are inconvenient to persons bringing loading from or to Brisbane; and a few pounds expended on improving them would be a great advantage to the public. There are also one or two other spots along the road which would require immediate attention—one particularly at the approach to the Cabbage Tree Bridge, where, after half-a-day's rain, a horse and dray or buggy cannot possibly pass with safety. If some of the Government House people get stuck there, we may have some chance of having the place made passable; but if the coach with common people, or a poor man and his horse and cart, get bogged it is of no importance. We have no reason to be thankful for the generous expenditure of the public moneys at Sandgate; if only the one-tenth of the amount realised by the Government for the sale of public lands from this to the German Station were expended in local improvements, we would have all done for us that we could possibly require. Nature has done a great deal for us; and, if anything more has been accomplished, we may thank the enterprise of private individuals for it.



SHORNCLIFFE RAILWAY STATION REFURBISHMENT TALK

The Sandgate Historical Society has been following the Shorncliffe railway station refurbishment and upgrade project with great interest. The station's lovely old buildings and many historic features make it a project dear to our hearts.

Therefore, we are very pleased that Project Manager, Helena Hill, has agreed to give a presentation at the Sandgate museum on how the work is progressing. Come along to hear what is happening with the station and have a chat to Helen over a cup of tea.



When: Sunday 19 April 2026
 Time: 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
 Cost: \$10.00 includes light afternoon tea
 Where: Sandgate Museum
 150 Rainbow Street, Sandgate
 Numbers: Limited (45)
 Tickets: Use link or QR code
 to pay via card

<https://square.link/u/NCE0T3eE>



Note: Tickets non-refundable
 but may be gifted or resold

REMINDER

Tea with History	26 March
Membership fees due	1 April
Bald Hills Cemetery Walk	11 April
Shorncliffe Station Talk	19 April
Annual General Meeting	17 May
Flinders Parade Walk	mid-May

GUIDED HISTORY WALKS

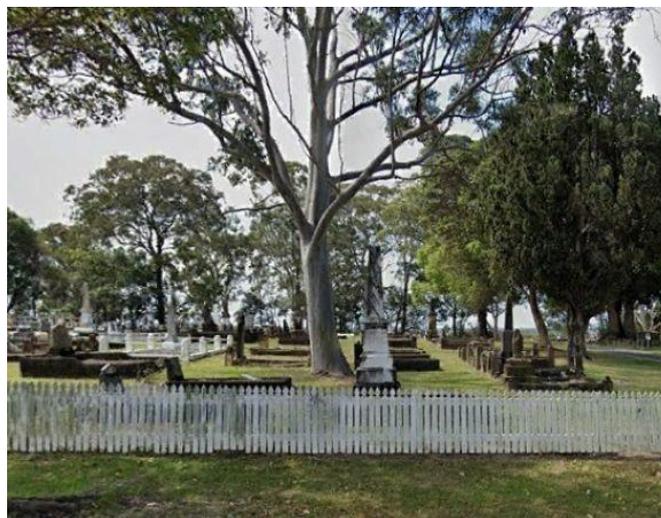
We are resuming our walks program for 2026 in April. Our first is the *Bald Hills Cemetery Walk*.

When: Saturday 11 April 2026
 Time: 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
 Donation: \$30.00 donation is requested
 Meet: Bald Hills Cemetery, Bracken Ridge
 (Drive in through entrance, 225 Barrett Street)
 Walk: Easy to moderate – some uneven ground
 Bring: Chair if desired, hat, water bottle & walking shoes
 Numbers: Limited (25)
 Tickets: Use link or QR code to pay via card



<https://square.link/u/tSoEt66y>

Note: Donations non-refundable but tickets may be gifted.



Flinders Parade Talk – proposed for mid-May.
 Follow us on our Facebook page and our website for further details.



SPECIAL HISTORICAL DEVONSHIRE TEAS

Looking for a venue to celebrate your birthday, catch up with a group of friends or simply enjoy a morning tea together?



We can cater for groups of between 12 and 25 at \$15.00 per person - with an interesting and entertaining talk on local history thrown in if you would like it.

Thanks to Lynne Ives and her welcoming band of volunteers who provide this wonderful service.

If you would like to help at one of our morning teas, please contact the museum – we are always looking for more volunteers.

SCHOOL & GROUP VISITS

We offer programs for visiting schools, social clubs and other groups. Our presentations are tailored to your specific interest in the Sandgate district.



On request we can cater morning or afternoon tea. School activities to support the curriculum can be presented at the museum or our volunteers can come to your school.

Please email or phone us for more details.

RESEARCH SERVICES

Are you interested in finding out more about the history of your house, a local family, past events or the general history of the Sandgate area?



The museum offers research services free to members. For non-members we request a donation and research for commercial purposes attracts a negotiated fee.

BOOKS & BOTTLES FOR SALE

Looking for a present or a light read? The museum has a wide variety of historical publications for sale. Please call in to peruse or check out our website for titles and prices.



We also have a variety of historic bottles for sale, donated by Queensland Rail following their archaeological dig at the Shorncliffe Station. You may like to take home a bit of local history for a small donation to the museum.

MUSEUM UPDATE

Indexing



Volunteers continue to index our collection of historical documents (all twelve filing cabinets – almost finished) in preparation for accessing the significance of each document before digitising our records. Helpers are always welcome.

New acquisitions

The following items have recently been acquired through grants from Brisbane City Council and the Federal Government.

- New chairs
- New filing cabinets
- Laptop and keyboard
- New landline phone
- Cordless vacuum cleaner
- Stools for workstation
- Portable Mic/Speaker for our walks and talks

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES



Membership is vital for the museum to function and help preserve the history of our community.

Membership fees for 2026 are due on or before 1 April 2026.

Single: \$20 Family: \$30 Life: \$300

Payment options: by card or cash at the museum, or by bank transfer.

(BSB: 084 365 Account: 52 501 9521)

(Please use your **name** as a reference for bank transfer)

You can find more details and complete a membership form on our website or pop into the museum any Wednesday or Sunday morning.

NEWSLETTER

If you are still receiving the newsletter in hard copy and would like to receive it by email instead, please contact the museum.

FACEBOOK & WEBSITE

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page and Website:

www.facebook.com/SandgateHistoricalMuseum

www.sandgatemuseum.com.au/

COMING UP

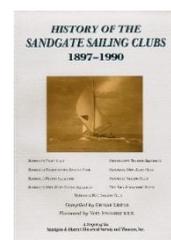
- Monthly Management Meeting
Wednesday 18 March– 9:00 am
- Tea with History
This month's talk will focus on how wedding fashions have changed over the years.
Thursday 26 March - 10:00 am
Cost: \$15.00
- Bald Hills Cemetery Walk – 11 April
- Shorncliffe Station Talk – 19 April



PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

We have several publications for sale at the museum – for more details, pop into the museum or check out our website:

www.sandgatemuseum.com.au



MUSEUM ENTRY FEES

Adult: \$5.00

Child: \$3.00



OPENING HOURS - 2026

Sunday and Wednesday: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.

(hours may vary according to volunteer availability)

VOLUNTEERS

The museum operates thanks to the hard work and dedication of its volunteers. There's always room for more! Please drop in on any Wednesday or Sunday to have a chat.



SUPPORTERS

Taybian Marketing & Design
Power Building Group
Dr Deborah Cronau
Damp Solutions Australia

Full Moon Hotel
Arthouse Northside
Gotcha Pest Control

Tim Mead Accounting Services
Moreton Bay Designs
Arlow Electrical Contracting
Round Table Coffee

Sandgate & District Historical Society & Museum Inc is proudly supported by Brisbane City Council



Dedicated to a better Brisbane