

Lindisfarne

Lindisfarne Historical Society Inc.

Newsletter No.1/2023



SOCIETY NEWS

2023 is well under way and on Monday 27th March we will be holding our AGM. The Committee encourages all members and friends to attend and show their support for the Society. If you would like to join the committee or be involved in any way, please let us know!

The year has started well with Guest Speaker Chris Parker, President of the Lindisfarne Branch of the RSL. This year marks 100 years since the formation of Legacy and Chris's presentation was exceptional.

Malcolm Ward gave us a fascinating talk on the early days of our lovely suburb. We have a copy of Malcolm's document "*Thomas George Gregson & some early History of Hobart's Eastern Shore*" if you would like one. Please contact Penny if you would like a copy.

The Society was recently gifted a beautiful photograph of Lindisfarne by Mary Rayner. "Panorama of Lindisfarne" c1918 is a photo by the renowned John Beattie and is now hanging in the Library at the Community Centre in Lincoln St, so please pop in and have a look. A big thank you to Mary for letting us have this beautiful picture.

The Rotary Club of Lindisfarne is this year celebrating 50 years of service in the local community. Two past presidents of the Lindisfarne Historical Society, Graham Burgess and Dennis Wiss, are original members of this well- respected community group.

The L.H.S. will have a display and be available with information at the LCAC on Saturday 29th April. The Library's Book Sale and the Dog's Home Trash

and Treasure Stall will also be happening on that day, so please mark your diary.

Recently some members enjoyed a trip to Dunalley for a delicious lunch at Phoenix Farm. It is a beautiful spot overlooking the water with a lovely garden to wander through admiring the many interesting plants. (See photos and a report on pages 6 – 7.)

L.H.S. Society Meetings 2023

Monday March 27th @ 2pm (AGM)

Monday April 24th @ 2pm

Monday May 29th @ 2pm

Monday June 26th @ 2pm

Monday July 31st @ 2pm

Monday August 28th @ 2pm

Monday September 25th @ 2pm

Monday October 30th @ 2pm

Monday November 27th @ 2pm

All meetings to be held at the **Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre, 37a Lincoln St. Lindisfarne**, unless stated otherwise.

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

You can email the L.H.S. at:
lindisfarne.history@gmail.com

Lindisfarne Historical Society Inc.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

WHEN: Monday 27th March 2023 @ 2pm

WHERE: Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre, 37a Lincoln St, Lindisfarne

Come along and have your say on the future of our Society. All positions on the Committee will be declared vacant and the Committee for 2023 will be elected.

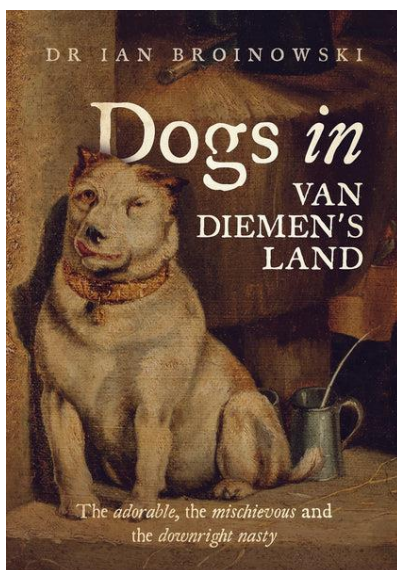
If you are interested in nominating yourself, or another, for the Committee please contact the Secretary, Susan Gardner on 0418 289 732 or email: lindisfarne.history@gmail.com

All members are urged to attend.

Following the AGM our Guest Speaker will be:

Dr Ian Broinowski

Author of *'Dogs in Van Diemen's Land: The Adorable, the Mischievous and the Downright Nasty'*



Ross Butler, President: Susan Gardner, Secretary

Lindisfarne Historical Society Inc. Committee

President: Ross Butler (PH: 6243 6862)

Vice-President: Penny O'Brien (PH: 0439 379 640)

Secretary: Susan Gardner (PH: 0418 289 732)

Treasurer: Noeline Heaven (PH: 6243 9216)

Archive Officer/Display Manager: Ann Curran

Committee: Geoffrey Cashion, Dorothy Cuthill, Margaret Harrison, Bernadette Peck & Alan Townsend

Newsletter/Publishing Sub-Committee: Rebecca Johnson, Penny O'Brien
& Reg Watson

Facebook Administrator: Fran Read

THE RETURNED SISTERS' REST HOME IN LINDISFARNE

If my recall is correct, last year I wrote under the heading "President's Miscellaneous Musings" about memories that are precious to me about growing up in Lindisfarne. At the moment that source seems to have run dry – not permanently, I hope!

For this Newsletter I turn to the Tasmanian Historical Research Association of which I am a member. Over recent years through purchases at Gowan's Auctions I have acquired a large collection of the papers and proceedings of the Association since its inception in the 1950's. I look forward to mining these for information about the past history of Lindisfarne that I will offer in the form of brief historical snippets, or longer articles, to widen knowledge of Hobart's loveliest suburb.

In the Volume 69 no1 – April 2022 copy of Papers and Proceedings of the THRA appeared an article

"The Returned Sisters' Rest Home, Lindisfarne 1924" by Leonie Mickleborough.

The author said that the Returned Sisters' Association of Tasmania was formed in 1919 to promote the mutual benefit and assistance of nurses upon the return of 89 Tasmanian nurses from the First World War. In 1921 the Association opened a trained nurses club and bureau. It offered social activities for nurses and opportunity for the public and institutions to apply for trained nurses. In May 1923 the Association proposed to build "a weekend shack" to be named "The Memorial Rest Home" to commemorate three Tasmanian nurses who either died on active service or from effects of the war after returning home.

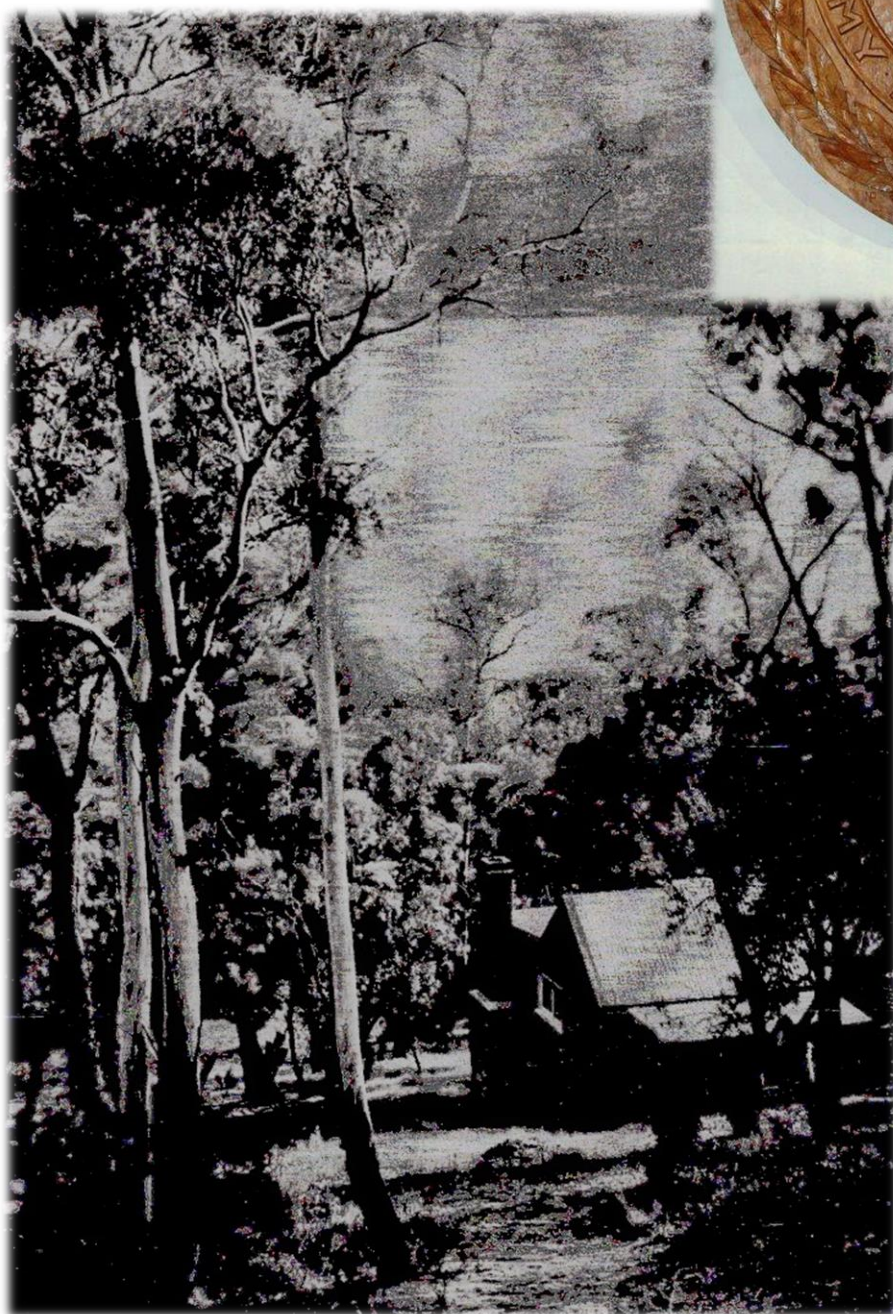
Matthew Wilkes Simmons gave three acres of bush on the northwest slope of Natone Hill for the home at 120 Derwent Avenue which opened on 24th June 1924.

I forbear from writing more from Leonie Mickleborough's very interesting research in the hope that your L.H.S. committee will be able to arrange for the author, herself, to present her history to us at a future meeting.

Ross Butler
L.H.S. President



Wooden plaque commemorating, Matron Miles Walker, Sister Janet Redcliff and Sister Isabel Edwards who served with the Australian Army Nursing Service during WWI. The plaque was located at the Rest Home in Lindisfarne but is now housed at Anglesea Barracks Museum in Davey Street, Hobart.



The Rest Home on Natone Hill, Lindisfarne
(120 Derwent Ave)
Date unknown

COVER PHOTOS:



Picture-perfect Lindisfarne Bay!

Equally as beautiful shrouded in fog
as it is in full sunshine, wouldn't you
agree?



L.H.S. members outside Phoenix Farm

February 2023

L.H.S. VISIT TO DUNALLEY

An enjoyable days' outing was held last month, with 19 members of the L.H.S. travelling on the Community Bus to Phoenix Farm - just outside of Dunalley for lunch.

A little background history of how Phoenix Farm came to be:

In the early 1930's, George Long senior and his wife Margaret, acquired land around Ryan's Hill (near Dunalley). Two of their five sons, Cyril and Bertram Long, formed a partnership - "Long Brothers" (of mixed farming).

In 1936, Cyril & Joan Long lived in the small house on the land and brought up their 3 daughters, whilst Bertram Long, lived in the township

of Dunalley with his wife & daughter - 1 1/2 miles away.

The Ryan's Hill house was enlarged in the 1950's, and a new section of the highway in the 1950's cut through paddocks of the farm and made the house and woolshed closer to the highway.

Mr Bertram Long died in 1967 and the remaining brother farmed a smaller acreage.

In 1980, the husband of Cyril Long's youngest daughter - Robert Rainey - took over the running of the farm.

Mr Cyril Long died in 1985 and his widow remained at the house.

After Mrs. Long died in 2007, the Ryan's Hill part of the land was sold to Michael King (current owner of Phoenix Farm).

An accidental fire gutted the house in 2012 and the re-construction was almost finished when a year later it was razed to the ground yet again (along with all the other out-buildings) by the devastating Dunalley bushfire of January 2013.

The woolshed had long been an iconic landmark along the Arthur Highway.

After the second fire, the house was rebuilt once more, and "Phoenix Farm" rose from the ashes. The picturesque garden was gradually developed over time.

Information courtesy of Margaret Harrison



At Dunalley you'll also find the Tasman monument.

The Inscription reads:

This monument was erected by the Government of Tasmania in 1942 to commemorate the Tercentenary of the discovery of this island in 1642 by Hon. Abel Jans Tasman.

Ships boats commanded by Pilot Major Visscher visited this bay on December 3rd 1642



Aerial view of Phoenix Farm, near Dunalley

Source: phoenixfarm.com.au

NEWS OF OLDE

MARRIED—On Saturday last, by the Rev. W. Bedford, at St. David's Church, Mr. H. HARRISON, of Lindisfern, to CAROLINE MATILDA HILL.

*Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser,
27th May 1825, p.4*

POETRY.

The splendor of morning illumined the sky,
And yon mountain* had caught the bright ray,
Fill'd with rapture and love, & with heart-beat-
ing high,
The bridegroom left Lindisfern Bay.
Now sparkles the wave, and spreads the white
sail,
Derwent stream bears the bark swift away,
Ah! swifter she'd carry (could wishes prevail)
The bridegroom of Lindisfern Bay.
The youth leaps on shore, and hies to the fair,
All lovely in bridal array,
The Priest joins their hands and offers a
prayer,
For the lovers of Lindisfern Bay.
From the altar attend the fair virgin train,
To deck with sweet flowers the way;
On the beach bid adieu and ne'er see again
The lovers of Lindisfern Bay.
And now they embark, again spread the sail,
But when shall they land well a day!
The squall comes resistless, death breathes in
the gale
As they enter sweet Lindisfern Bay.
They're gone! and for ever, the cold briny
wave
Dash'd the hopes of the morning away,
They lov'd, were united, and lie in one grave,
The lovers of Lindisfern Bay!
* Mount Wellington.

*Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser,
17th June 1825, p.3*

The Lovers of Lindisfarne Bay

Could this poem have been inspired by
Lindisfarne's earliest couple?

Hezekiah Harrison, eldest son of Robert Harrison Esq, arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1823 aboard the ship 'Mariner' along with his parents, siblings and 2 family servants.

By 1825, he was occupier of 'Lindisfern', a homestead situated on the shores of Lindisfarne Bay – one of the earliest structures to have been built in the area. (Which then makes Hezekiah one of Lindisfarne's earliest residents!)

On the 21st May 1825, the then, 27 year old bachelor, married Caroline Matilda Hill and the couple started their married life together at 'Lindisfern'. (Presumably "sailing off" into Lindisfarne Bay after their nuptials.)

Though unlike the poem suggests, there was no tragic watery end for these lovers of *Lindisfern Bay*, so I hope the writer was just taking artistic licence here!!

For the record, the Harrison's moved on to the Campbell Town area after just a few years, where they established the property of 'Merton Vale'.

Both Hezekiah and his wife died in 1860.

NOTE: It has been a long-held belief that Hezekiah Harrison came from Northumberland, near the Holy Island of Lindisfarne and that the name for the area (and early homestead) had been his doing. However, further research has uncovered that this may not have been the case. In fact, he was from Essex – Rochford Hall to be exact, whose manor house once famously belonged to the Boleyn family during the reign of Henry VIII).



This Newsletter was kindly
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