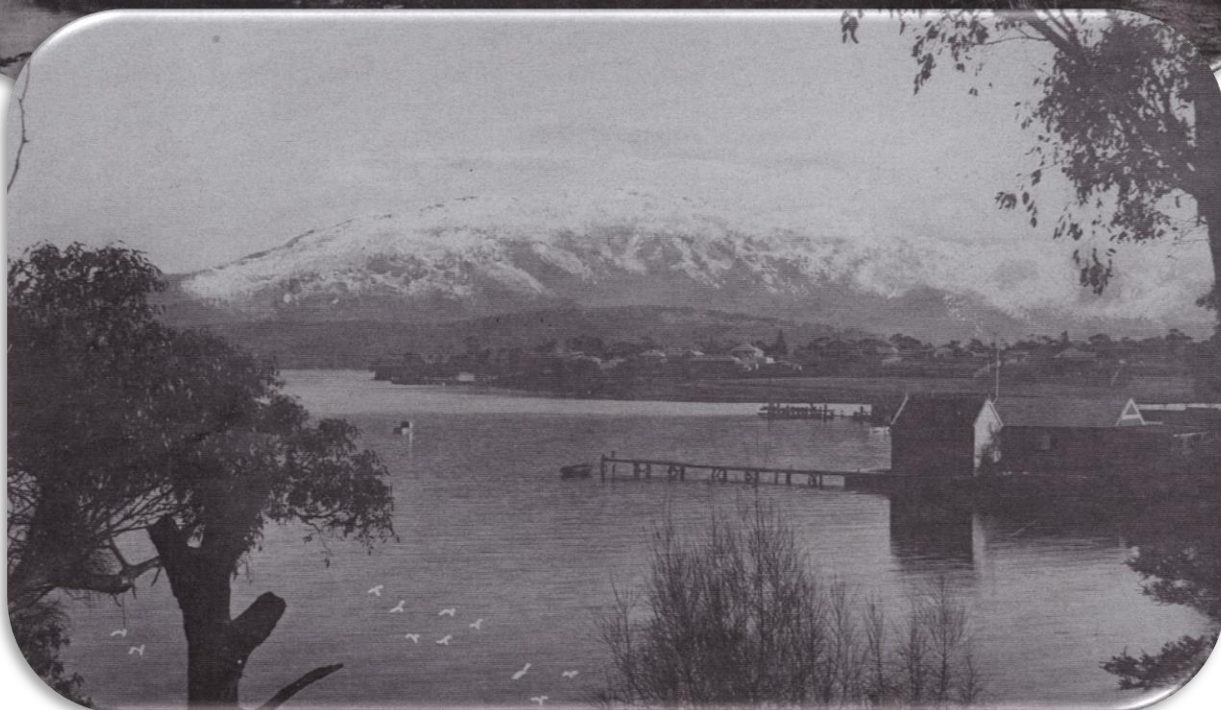


Lindisfarne

# Lindisfarne Historical Society Inc.

Newsletter No.2/2023

*Snowy winter-time views from Lindisfarne Bay*



## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

In recent years at book sales-cum-fairs conducted by the Dog's Home folk, (with the support of the L.H.S. displaying our historical material and providing morning teas for a donation) I have provided popular music from the 1920's to 19-J's on my piano accordion. My busking sign states, "your donation will help the L.H.S. to promote Hobart's loveliest suburb."

I firmly believe the truth of my fervent declaration. It is well supported by many factors – the relative shelter between Gordon's Hill and Natone Hill of the worst of seasonal or diurnal winds; extensive areas open to maximum warmth of the sun; much flat land for relaxing, walking and cycling recreation with a wide variety of changing views to most points of the compass, crowned, of course by the best views of Kunanyi/Mt Wellington from any of the shores of the Derwent and its bays. In addition, its utilitarian quality is enhanced by the amenity of many professional, retail and hospitality services and sporting facilities.

As a daily walker around parts of Lindisfarne Bay, however, a major blotch diminishes, from time to time, my delight and the perspective I have held since my childhood in the Lindisfarne of the 1940's and 50's.

I refer to low tide!

It reveals from Ford Parade to Liena Road, an ugly and quite distressing sight of the deterioration of what was once a clean and natural counterpart of the sparkle of high tide.

Before the filling in of the head of the Bay in the 1950's and the development of Simmons Park, the

beautiful beach of golden sand of about 30 metres length bordered by sandstone outcrops bearing pods of trapped minute bay life in front of 24 Esplanade, the golden sand merged gradually into the clean natural bottom. As children we had no hesitation in walking across this to reach water to paddle, play and swim. Then came, of course, progress with rocks from nearby roadworks dumped off the Esplanade obscuring much of the natural rock formations of the shore formed over millions of years. This was followed by outpourings of stormwater over decades (not to forget the direct flow of sewage into the bay from the Beltana Hotel in the early years of its operation.) With the storm water came oil and dirt from sealed roads. I presume this included some nutrients for the invasion of wild oysters.

Even today, there is alleged to be raw sewage from an overflow pipe under Ford Parade after long periods of heavy rain entering the bay.

Well, as Lenin said with the outbreak of the Russian Revolution, "what is to be done?"

My answer: a campaign for a major environmental project to remove foreign rocks and other unnatural material from the bay, cessation of dirty stormwater and restoration of a natural bay bottom.

It will probably take ten years to achieve and many of our current members may not see the end result, ***but let's start now!***

I intend to write to the Council and seek to promote the matter through the 'Eastern Shore Sun' and other avenues, and I urge members to consider what they do as individuals and, possibly,

some citizens with more energy than me might start a formal pressure group.

As an Historical Society, I believe it totally appropriate for us to set to restore physical features, at present only in historical memory.

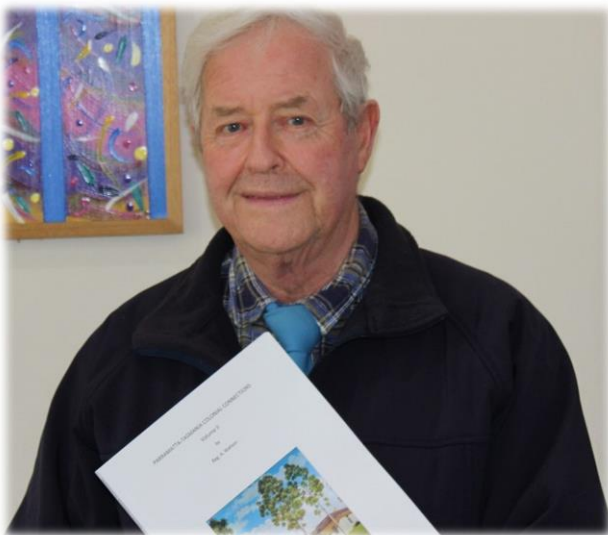
**Ross Butler (President L.H.S.)**

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### VALE

**Reg Watson**

**5.9.1949 – 17.3.2023**

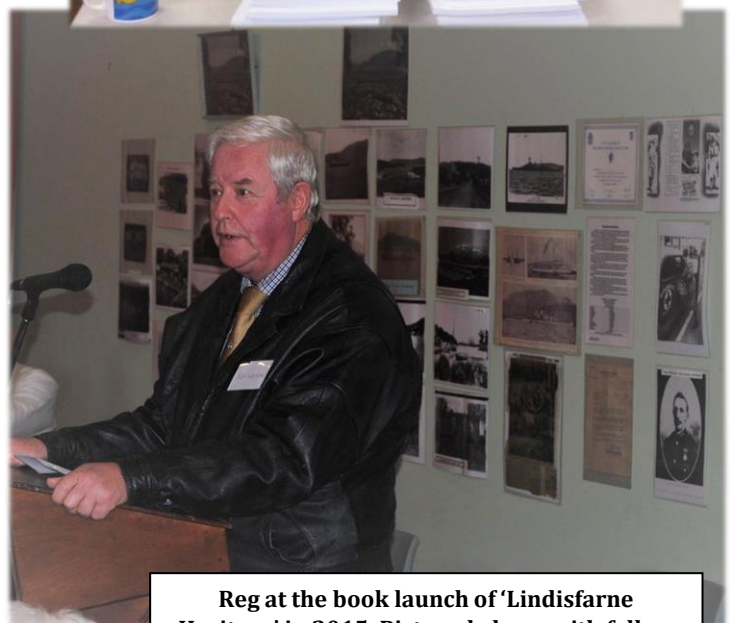


Reg Watson was well-known as an author and historian, publishing many books, as well as articles for publications such as 'The Mercury' and 'Eastern Shore Sun' to name but a few. He also had a regular spot on community radio and was involved in many historical groups. - but we knew him as a long-time member of the Lindisfarne Historical Society. For some years Reg was a member of the Management Committee, where his wide knowledge and multiple contacts proved beneficial to our society. He himself would often act as Guest Speaker on many occasions.

Reg was a regular contributor of articles for our newsletter, and was the editor of Volume I of our popular book, 'Lindisfarne Heritage'.

During the years that our history room was open, Reg would regularly visit and chat to the volunteer on duty, sharing his knowledge and wisdom. He was very much part of our Society and we will miss him greatly.

*Rest in Peace, Reg.*



**Reg at the book launch of 'Lindisfarne Heritage' in 2015. Pictured above with fellow L.H.S. member Janine Hunt.**



## VALE

**Noeline Heaven**

**6.3.1930 – 8.7.2023**



Members of the Society have been deeply saddened by the passing of our dear friend, Noeline Heaven.

Noeline spent her entire life in the Lindisfarne area and was always actively involved in the community. She attended Lindisfarne Primary School before completing her education at Ogilvie High School and when her own three children attended school, she was actively involved on various school committees.

Noeline was actively involved with the local Congregational Church (later the Uniting Church) which was built by her grandfather, Mr Jonas Cranston, on land donated by Mr Matthew Wilkes Simmons in 1903. She was a member of the Church Council for very many years, and her connection with the church fellowship led to her long involvement with the Unicorn Opportunity Shop which opened in 1972.

Noeline became manager of the shop shortly after and only retired from this position in December 2020. Her dedication led to the Unicorn thriving for over 50 years and it continues to serve the community to this day. Noeline was also on the board of the Lillian Martin Nursing Home for a number of years.

A founding member of the Lindisfarne Historical Society in 1992, Noeline served on the Management Committee as Treasurer for almost all of that time. She was seen as the 'go to' person on the Committee with her knowledge of the area and its people, and we will miss her greatly.

Fellow L.H.S. Committee member Dorothy Cuthill happily worked alongside Noeline and says:

*"At our meetings Noeline was always on hand to make sure everyone had a cuppa and some of her delicious homemade pikelets or jelly cakes. She loved cooking and we were always happy to sample some of her tasty treats."*

Noeline was devoted to her family, her children, Bill, Lisa and Sara, her grandchildren, and her 6 great grandchildren. We know they will miss her greatly and we send them our deepest sympathy. The large number of people and the beautiful flowers at Noeline's farewell, held at the at the Uniting Church, is a tribute to the high regard in which she was held.

Noeline was a most valued and respected member of our Society and a great loss to all those who knew and loved her.

*Rest in Peace, Noeline.*



Noeline with fellow L.H.S. Committee Members, Dorothy Cuthill, Lyn Winters and Penny O'Brien



Noeline with late L.H.S. President Philip Sweetingham receiving her Life Membership, 2017.



Noeline, Rosemary Hogan and Dorothy Cuthill on Society tea duty!



## GRAHAM BURGESS AND THE EARLY YEARS OF LINDISFARNE ROTARY



Graham started out by saying that Rotary was a small portion of his long story spanning 97 years. He came to Hobart from Wynyard in 1946 as a young 20 year old after doing a six year electrical apprenticeship. He had met his future wife, Brenda in Wynyard where she had moved to work as a telegraphist during WW2. In 1945 she returned to Lindisfarne where her family ran the Post Office. Brenda's family, the Inches, were in postal services from the 1860s. Graham followed her.

Graham and Brenda were married in 1948 and bought a block of land on the East Derwent Highway next to the Lindisfarne Golf Course. After building a shack to live in, they built a house which is still in the family.

Graham ran an electrical business in the village and was approached in 1965 to join Bellerive

Rotary. In the past Rotary clubs consisted of men only who were in a business or trade, managers, teachers and men of standing in the community. A good friend and fellow Rotarian of Graham's was Wally Ellison, a resident of Lindisfarne and fellow member of the Uniting Church who was the manager of an insurance company.

The Bellerive Rotary Club had nearly 60 members. Graham was very involved and a personal highlight was attending an International Convention in Sydney in 1971 where Norman

Vincent Peale, author of the best seller 'The Power of Positive Thinking', gave the address to over 26,000 members.

Following discussions involving members of Bellerive Rotary who lived in Lindisfarne, especially Graham, Wally and District Governor

Don Dudgeon, it was thought that a club would work in Lindisfarne. They got busy and went ahead and formed a new club with 26 members which became chartered with quite a few men from Richmond. Meetings were held every Wednesday at the Beltana Hotel, even the licensee became a member.

The first project undertaken was to provide rubbish bins at the bottom of Natone Street which was always in an untidy state. One of the new members was John Howell, Governor of the Gaol, with whom they decided to clean up the area. He



organized a few of the "Saturday" prisoners to help. With increased membership, the men decided that all of Lindisfarne and Richmond needed rubbish bins. These were 20 gallon tins made by some members who had workshops and it was organized with the council to put these around the two areas.

Sadly, in the first three years, the club lost four chartered members; Les Allen, an upholsterer, Barry Riley, Don Dudgeon and Tony Coleman of Ashmore Antiques.

Other fundraisers included selling 500 bags of sheep manure and running barbecues, all in the lane next to Graham's shop. Funds went to the Student Exchange Program for Tasmanian students to go overseas and overseas students to study here.

Graham was a very active member but in the 1980s when the Lindisfarne Library closed, he decided to resign from Rotary and devote his efforts to getting an activity centre for the village. Graham admits that the Lindisfarne Rotary Club was one of the better clubs around. It also met at Sherwood, home of the Murfet family, after the Beltana.

Graham was also a member of many other community-based organizations, his particular favourite being the Lindisfarne Garden Club where he and Brenda clocked up over 50 years of service.

Photos Previous Page – Main: Graham Burgess pictured at an L.H.S. meeting in 2015.

Inset: the plaque he received in 2003 from the Rotary Club of Lindisfarne for 10 years support for the Lindisfarne Community and Activity Centre.

## **L.H.S. Society Meetings 2023**

**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.

### **AUGUST MEETING**

Guest Speaker:

**MR JEFF SCHNEIDER**

*His Subject:*

***THE HISTORY OF HOBART'S JEWISH SYNAGOGUE***

Jeff is the current President and Board Member of the Hobart Hebrew Congregation.

**WHEN: MONDAY, 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 @ 2.00pm**

**WHERE:** Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre

37a Lincoln Street, Lindisfarne

All are welcome – bring a friend!

Enquiries: [lindisfarne.history@gmail.com](mailto:lindisfarne.history@gmail.com)

or phone Bernadette: 0408 240 558

The following interview of Noeline Heaven was conducted by Reg Watson in 2014 for inclusion in our publication 'Lindisfarne Heritage' (published 2015). We believe it seemed quite fitting to include in this edition:

## LINDISFARNE PAST YEARS

### Reminiscences of a Longtime Resident

Interviewed by Reg. A Watson

Noeline Heaven has spent all her life in the district. Over the years there have been many changes and progress. She did at one time work in the city and the mode of transport in commuting is just one of those substantial changes.

Lindisfarne is a nice place to live; it has its problems, but in comparison to other centres they are small. So, what was it like in past years? Noeline has an easy answer. *"I loved it,"* she said when growing up in the area: *"It was peaceful, quiet and one could ride anywhere on a bike. It was safe. I can't remember any crime. I can't remember theft, murder."*

Noeline's father was an orchardist in an era where they were everywhere. There were apples and pears exported to England. Noeline's father was William Tanner, who had his orchard from where the Masonic Hall is up on Beach Road and along Malunna Road. He had his own packing shed.

The Depression took its toll, however, and in 1927 he took a job at Charles Davis in the city. Charles Davis actually had a home in Lindisfarne, which still stands. It was a long day for anyone commuting by ferry across the River Derwent to Hobart, catching the 7am ferry and returning on the 7pm ferry. The ferry was a part of Lindisfarne



Reg and Noeline at the book launch of  
Lindisfarne Heritage in which this article  
appears. 2015

life. When Noeline attended Ogilvie High School, she had to ferry across the river, then catch the tram to New Town. Others chose to ride their bikes to the old punt, situated at East Derwent.

*"In those days there was no high school at all on the Eastern Shore,"* stated Noeline. *"Our family had no car and the roads were all gravel. When the floating bridge came (1943) then came some paved roads, then the buses. Before that Lindisfarne was rather remote, but we didn't feel so, we had our own community and as children we were never lonely."*

Noeline remembers the picture theatre starting that during the war, and as members of the Congregational Church there were always activities which included of course on Sunday, Sunday School in the afternoon and church in the morning and afternoon.



There were a number of other activities by which the people were entertained, there being picnics, swimming in Lindisfarne Bay where there was a beach, which was later filled in. There were plenty of other sports, football, rowing, golf, cricket and pastimes such as dancing.

In those days the milk was delivered to the house and one would leave a billy out to receive it. Then there was the bread man, and the meat being delivered. Mr Kline was the greengrocer and the "rabbit man" in his horse and cart. Locations have changed; for instance, Jacob's butcher was where the new chemist now stands (Chemist Warehouse) and on the corner where the drycleaners are was Jones' Store and on the corner of Lincoln and Wellington Streets were tea rooms, where people who came from the Western Shore could take tea.

Prior to the Floating Bridge, most medical cases were under the care of Dr Parker from Bellerive who used to visit Lindisfarne once or twice a week. He would do home visits. Visits by ambulances were rare if they ever did appear. Private phones were also rare with a public one at the Post Office. The scourge of fire was rarely a problem, however Noeline can remember men fighting fires on Natone Hill.

*"It was a time of great community atmosphere where people helped each other,"* recalls Noeline.

Then there were the war years (1939-45).

There were war shelters dug in the garden which proved to be good places to play for children.

*"Dad became an air-raid warden and wore a helmet. There were regular practices with meetings*

*at weekends, primarily at the Lane family property at the Turning,"* she said.

Then, the Red Cross and emergency services were often combined with similar groups from Bellerive. The Queen Victoria Home was the emergency centre. There was training for dealing with the wounded with many young people playing the part as patients, acting as the walking wounded or lying on a stretcher. Perhaps they were simulating bleeding to death. It was all very exciting, but in essence very serious as well.

*"During the war, one was constantly wondering where all their friends were. Five of the six boy cousins I had went to war. One was a Prisoner of War under the Japanese."*

*"There were search lights on top of Natone Hill. There was a real fear of invasion. The Minister at Church Rev. Owen Lewis, actually came across some Japanese in Lindisfarne Bay drawing maps."*

There was no shortage of food, within the Lindisfarne area there was always a good source of vegies, chooks and eggs. Then it was all over and although quite slowly things began to change especially with the building of the Floating Bridge.

*"The Botanical Gardens became a great place to visit, as it was easily accessed."*

*"Over all it was a simple life. In my early days I use to walk to school and came home for lunch; then dinner was lunch and lunch was tea. I even came home for lunch when I began working in the city,"* she added.

A world gone by!

# 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)

**Acting Treasurer:** Lyn Winters (PH: 0402 063 179)

**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

**Facebook Administrator:** Fran Read

You can email the L.H.S. at:  
**[lindisfarne.history@gmail.com](mailto:lindisfarne.history@gmail.com)**



This Newsletter was kindly  
printed by the office of

Julie Collins M.P.  
Member for Franklin

