



**WINDSOR & DISTRICTS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

Volume

37


No 4

November

2025

Journal

TOWN OF WINDSOR




Formation:
The Shire of Windsor was created in 1887 after separating from the Ithaca Divisional Board. It was named Windsor since 1887 marked the 50th anniversary of Queen Victoria's ascension to the British throne and her favourite residence was Windsor Castle.

First President:
The first Shire President was Matthew Rigby and for ten years the Council operated out of a local rented house. The Shire contained the areas of the current suburbs of Windsor, Wilston, Grange, Lutwyche, Woolloowin, Kalinga and part of Albion, Newmarket, Alderley and Eagle Junction. In 1897, the council's own premises, the Windsor Council Chambers, was built from the Brisbane Tuff stone from the quarry adjacent to the Chambers.


First Mayor:
In 1904 the status of the shire was elevated to become a Town. Kenneth McLennan was elected the first Mayor.

Achievements:


- The Windsor Town Council was privileged to have a woman as the Town Clerk from 1916 to 1925 - Miss Alcyone Thorpe.
- The Town Council erected the WW1 Windsor War Memorial in 1925.
- Windsor Park in the early 1920s became an aerodrome for local joy flights.
- Windsor Picture Palace (later named the Windsor Crystal) opened in the early 1920s.
- The historic Rosemount house and grounds were used for rehabilitation of wounded WW1 soldiers (creating the Rosemount Military Hospital).
- Historic homes in the area included Kirkston, Oakwal, Conon, Boothville, Wilston House, The Grange, Kedron Lodge.
- The Windsor School of Arts was built in 1911.
- The Windsor State School was built in 1916.
- The population to the Town in the 1921 census was 8355 with an area of 36 sq km.




Windsor School of Arts.




William Jolly - Five times Mayor of the Town of Windsor



William Jolly - Five times Mayor of the Town of Windsor and The town of Windsor's mayoral chair.



Windsor Town Council Chambers.



Trams were introduced. The first terminus was alongside the Council Chambers in 1904.

Featuring

Society News – Greater Brisbane 100th

Lutwyche Imperial Picture Theatre

Thor Jensen

Days Road

Totem Poles

Fig Tree

& more

Journal

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November 2025

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Secretary WDHS

Much of the historical material was sourced from the Society's record collection, Trove and other online data bases.

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Gem Cowlshaw

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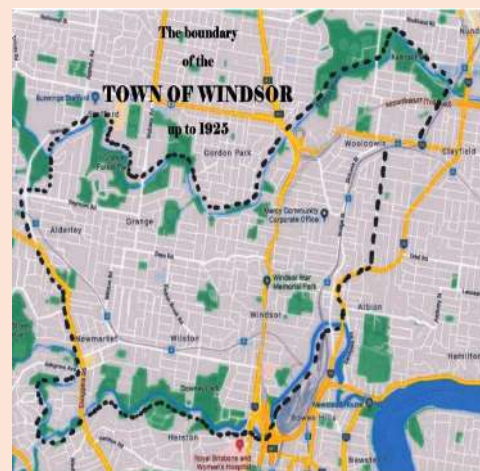
Recent issues are viewable online at

www.windsorhistorical.org.au



We are dedicated to preserving the history
of the
old Windsor Shire / Town areas of :

Albion *
Alderley *
Eagle Junction *
Grange
Kalinga
Lutwyche
Newmarket *
Wilston
Windsor
Woolloowin



And now extended to cover
Gordon Park and Herston.

* part of this suburb

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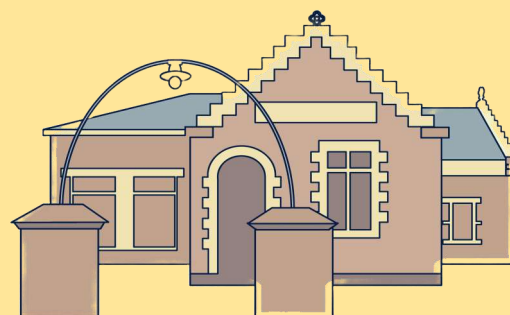
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Our home

Society News

Everyone is invited to the society's **AGM**

Sunday 23 November at 4pm at the Chambers

The history of the Windsor Rotary Club will be a feature presentation at the meeting.

Refreshments provided.

Nominations for positions on the Management Committee must be lodged with the secretary by 4pm November 8.

The chambers will be closed during the holiday period from Tuesday 9 December and reopen Sunday 11 January 2026



The Greater Brisbane Scheme was proposed because the town and shire councils in the Brisbane area were having difficulty making infrastructure improvements providing local government

services equally across **twenty** council areas. **Greater Brisbane came into effect on 1 October 1925, under the leadership of Mayor William Jolly**

To celebrate the 100th anniversary in 2025, a committee was formed to plan an event for this special occasion. Windsor & Districts Historical Society's **Gem Cowlshaw** was a member of this committee.



The committee held many meetings over 15 months with many obstacles to cross. However it all came together, and on **1 October 2025** when a great number of people attended City Hall to experience the 100 year celebration.



The Town of Windsor poster

Cr Andrew Wines, Gem and Joanne - Alison



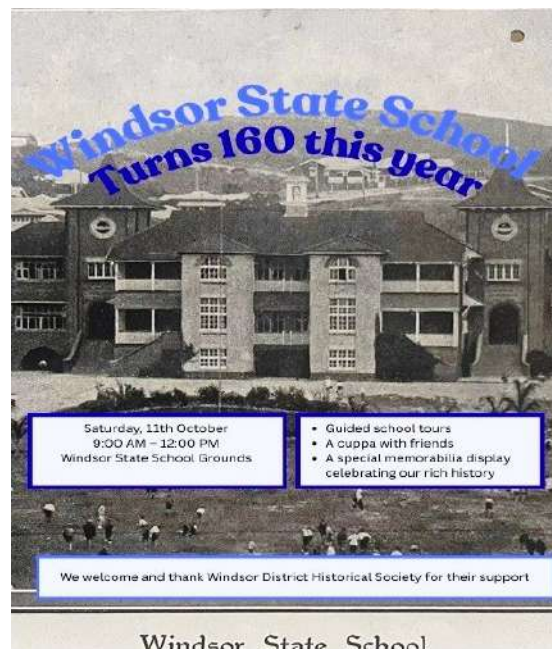
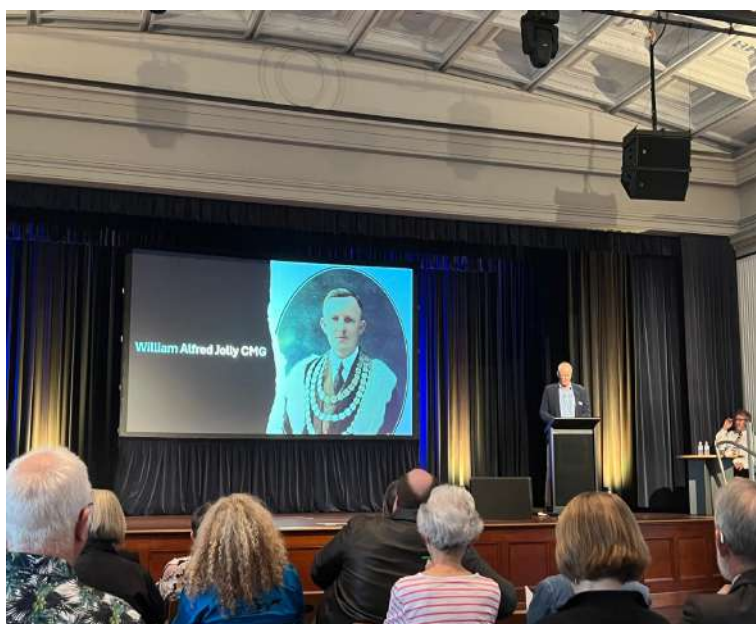
On 11 October, the Royal Historical Society of Queensland conducted a **History Conference** at City Hall



The Royal Society had requested papers to be submitted by local historians and others, with regard to the formation of the Greater Brisbane City Council in 1925.

25 Papers were received and those stories would be published in a book by the RHSQ. 11 of the papers were read out at the ticked event on 11 October.

Rob Price from the Windsor & Districts Historical Society had prepared 2 papers, “The story of William Jolly” and “History of the Town of Windsor”. The William Jolly Story was presented on the day by the Society’s **President Matthew Crook**. Matthew address was a resounding success, thanks to his uniquely compelling storytelling. He presented the narrative in his own special way, which deeply resonated with and was highly praised by everyone in attendance.



Also on 11 October, Windsor State School celebrated its 160th anniversary with a three hour event including school tours, memorabilia and refreshments. The society was invited to support the event and to be a source of historical information.



The society's Rob, John and Alison



Rob Price (WDHS) Fay Haas (longest serving staff member) and Shona Arneil (School Principal) - cut the 160th cake.

The Fig Tree

in Lutwyche Road



The origin of the giant fig tree in Lutwyche Road (opposite the “Good Guys”) Lutwyche, has always been in contention. The society has collected a few theories and some newspaper articles.

October 2001

Fig is a link to the past

WHENEVER Eleanor Holloway sees the magnificent weeping fig tree in Windsor, she thinks of her father.

And on Arbor Day, Tuesday October 9, it was no different.

The tree, which stands in the divided section of Lutwyche Rd and Truro Rd, is a familiar landmark to passing motorists and is affectionately known to Mrs Holloway's family as Pop's fig, after Harold Nelson, the man who planted it.

Mrs Holloway said whenever she, her siblings and their children drove past the tree they remembered why the tree was planted.

“My father was a street sweeper with Brisbane City Council in (the) Windsor and Lutwyche area during the 1920s (and) he used to sweep the streets by hand, then load the rubbish onto his horse-drawn dray and take it to the tip,” Mrs Holloway said.

“How he came by the tree, I don't know, but he told us that he was given the tree and told to take it to the dump. He couldn't bear to throw it away so he planted it because it was living and it was a lovely tree. In those days you didn't like to waste anything.”

The fig tree is now a Brisbane icon and there are thousands in the city.

Some are remnants of pre-European settlement, while others were planted during the colonial era, and more recently by council.

Deputy Mayor Tim Quinn said Arbor Day was a time to acknowledge how much the fig tree contributed to the city's unique character.

“They're as much a part of our architectural heritage and a reminder of our past as are our tin and timber buildings,” Cr Quinn said.

● Lutwyche Rd's fig tree is a Brisbane icon.

● Harold Nelson

In 1942, during WW2, the tram stop shelter next to the tree was converted into an air raid shelter by the Brisbane City Council. This shelter is currently listed on the Q'ld Heritage register.



July 2001

Fig-ure the mystery

● If trees could talk... Maureen Hayes at the historic Moreton Bay fig at Windsor.

THERE'S a mystery to be solved in Windsor.

A large Moreton Bay fig tree, planted on the centre median near the intersection of Lutwyche Rd and Stoneleigh St, has a history largely unknown.

A team of Brisbane City Council researchers have asked for community support to help track the tree's history.

After some digging by Windsor and Districts Historical Society member Mike Keating, some clues have emerged.

Historical society member Beres McCallum said it was believed the tree was planted in 1911 by Queensland parliamentarian Charles Taylor.

“It was planted over an underground spring at that point,” Mr Keating said. “It is believed the tree's planting coincided with the construction of the Windsor School of Arts.”

Brisbane City Councillor Maureen Hayes (Grange) said the tree's life was threatened many times as the city developed.

“The tree is recognised as the beginning of the gateway to the city,” Cr Hayes said.

People with information or anecdotes about the tree can phone the council's call centre on 3403 8888 and ask for the environment and parks branch.

GIANT FIG TREE (Referred to in recent busway literature as Pop's Tree)

Controversy surrounds the origin of this tree at present - It is standing in the way of the Northern Highway and so far there is no proven evidence as to who planted it. A descendant of the Nelson family says that her father, who was a rubbish carrier for the Brisbane City Council was told to take it with other trees to the dump in the 1930's but felt sorry for it and planted it there. Since then the Council have named it Pop's Tree. The Society has oral history from two long time residents who told us in 1993 that it was planted by two men associated with the School of Arts - Alderman Tom Prentice and Charles Taylor MLA - that would have been around 1918/1920.

In December 1958 the local Windsor Alderman Arthur Kruger, requested to council that the triangular area containing the fig tree and the Shelter be named “Wallace Place” in honour of local identity Tom Wallace who conducted his bicycle business in Lutwyche for many years. A letter was sent 19 December 1958 to Tom advising the name had been accepted.



Today, many thousands pass this place, But do they know the history?



The naming of Days Road



The road was named after **Willian Henry Day**

Days Road begins at the western end of Maygar St at the fiveways, and continues on to the Grange Heights just past Southerden Ave.

William Henry Day 1828 - 1919 was a Queensland Magistrate born in Bath, Somerset, England on 13th May, 1828. He was the son of Captain John D. Day who lived at Inglesbatch (Englishbatch).

***Inglesbatch** is a small hamlet within the civil parish of Englishcombe in the Bath and North East Somerset district of Somerset, England. Its nearest town is Bath, which lies approximately 3.7 miles (6.0 km) north-east from the hamlet. Inglesbatch Farm has an acreage of over 1,000 acres (400 ha).*

William was educated at St. Gregory's College, Bath and arrived in Melbourne in 1854. He came to the Colony of Moreton Bay in 1855. From 1859 to 1862 he was a Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, and was Clerk of Petty Sessions from 1862 to 1874. He was Police Magistrate in 1874, Water Police Magistrate in 1883, and Police Magistrate South Brisbane in 1888. He was a Member of the Education Board from its inception in 1860.

On 23rd April, 1862 he married **Margaret Ellen Buttenshaw** the only daughter of Thomas Buttenshaw RN.

On 12th June, 1867 as Clerk of Petty Sessions and Police Magistrate of Brisbane he took up 667 acres of land Por. 1 Samsonvale to grow sugar-cane. This land known as **Terrors Paddock**. In January, 1869 he selected Portion 15 an area of 200 acres and in July, 1871 he acquired Portion 61 - another 300 acres, giving him a total acreage of almost 1,200 acres. He established a sugar plantation using Kanaka Labour. He built a sugar mill in 1870 and later employed Rody Cruice as overseer of plant and mill and then J.M. Berry became Manager. Like his neighbour Captain Claudius Buchanan Whish, his sugar plantation was unsuccessful and he sold the property on 9th July, 1880 to Anglican Bishop Tufnell for 500 pounds 5 shillings.

Terrors Paddock was later to become the town of **Dayboro** (Named after William).



In 1864 William had purchased Portion 31 (78 acres) at **Kedron Brook**.

On 15 May 1877 - Thomas John Woosley purchased 31 acres from John Victor's portion 30 and then leased it to William Henry Day for five years at a yearly rental of 26 pounds payable quarterly.

On 9 June 1883- William Henry Day purchased all the 31 acres.

A house was built for William on his large acreage of land and he named it **"Inglesbatch"**

It is not known where this house was situated during the 1880's and 1890's He was recorded in the 1893, 1895/96 Postal Directories. His address was Day's Road, Eildon Hill. There were only four names of residents listed in these directories and his was the closest to Bowen Bridge Road.

Others were: William Gilbert — Tanner, Angus Briscoe — Currier, Grange Tannery and Fellmongery

Around the late 1890s, William and his wife Margaret returned to England to retire. Apparently he appointed family members as trustees of his Kedron Brook land.

In April 1912, Henry and Margaret returned to Brisbane for a visit which coincided with their 50th Wedding anniversary.

It was at this time that his land was advertised for sale — 13 May 1912

“Inglisbatch” - 112 acres

MONDAY, MAY 13
FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION,
ON ACCOUNT OF MR. AND MRS. W.H. DAY.
CHARMING RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT AND SUBDIVISIONAL PRO-
PERTY AT WILSTON KNOWN AS
"INGLISBATCH"
AREA 112 ACRES.

The whole of this splendid property, with improvements, consisting of dwelling, stables, &c., will be offered in one lot, giving the purchaser the opportunity of subdividing it, there being no better property round Brisbane for subdivision into residential sites.

The land is described as Subdivision 2 of Portion 35, Part of Portion 30, and the whole of Portion 31, Parish of Kedron, containing 112 Acres more or less.

THIS MAGNIFICENT PROPERTY HAS LONG FRONTAGE TO DAYS ROAD AND KEDRON BROOK. A large portion of the land is very high and comprises a number of the finest residential sites in the whole of this district. Portion of the land on the Creek frontage being first-class agricultural land.

THE PROPERTY IS WITHIN ABOUT HALF A MILE OF EITHER NEW MARKET OR WILSTON RAILWAY STATIONS, AND MOTOR BUSES RUN TO WITHIN A FEW YARDS OF THE PROPERTY.

TO INVESTORS, SPECULATORS, AND ALL IN SEARCH OF A GOOD BLOCK CLOSE TO THE CITY, THIS PROPERTY OFFERS AN UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY.

(2)

It appears that William and Margaret set sail back to England mid 1913, as it is recorded that Margaret passed away on that journey, at Italy 25 July 1913.

William lived on at Bournemouth Dorset until his passing 1 October 1919.

The London Times Funeral Notice Friday 3rd October, 1919 reads-

On the 1st October, at San Remo, Furley Road, Bournemouth, William Henry Day Formerly Police Magistrate, Brisbane, Queensland Aged 92 years

William and Margaret did not have any children and in William's will, after probate, effects of just over 5252 pounds were inherited by Joseph Day, his nephew, and son of William's late elder brother **Sir John C F S Day**.

It is interesting to note that Sir John Day was a prominent English Judge, and in 1882 was elevated the bench of the High Court of Justice. Sir John was a catholic and was heavily involved in the church, and was one of the first catholic Judges in England.

On 26 October 1912, the Day Park estate containing 280 sites, was advertised for sale.

280 Superb Sites
 Within easy walking distance of Wilston Railway Station

THE DAY PARK

WILSTON ESTATE WINDSOR

280 Superb Sites
 5 minutes from New tram extension Down bridge Kedron

SALE ON THE GROUND
SATURDAY
26th October 1912
AT 3 P.M.

LOCAL SKECH

EVERY ALLOTMENT ELEVATED
PERFECT DRAINAGE
HIGH & HEALTHY
COOL & BREEZY

PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE CITY & SUBURBS
AN IDEAL SITE FOR A HOME

TERMS
One-fifth Cash
Balance at 6, 12, 18 & 24 months
 with 5% interest added

"THE PALING ESTATE"

CURRIE, BUCHANAN & Co. Ltd. AUCTIONEERS



Sir John Charles Frederick Sigismund DAY

1826—1908

THOR JENSEN

“Valhalla” Rosemount Terrace Windsor

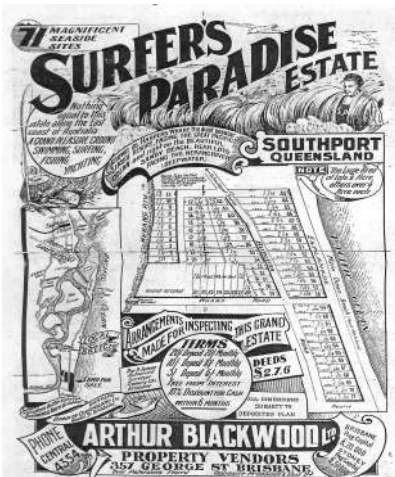
This article is partly reproduced from a previous journal article by David Teague

Who named Surfers Paradise

or as it was originally—Surfer’s Paradise? There are several stories and names bandied about but the prize must surely go to registered surveyor, **Thor Jensen**. He was a partner with Arthur Blackwood in land they purchased at Southport near Harper’s Ferry in 1916 and surveyed it into allotments. It is recorded that as he stood on the beach front he said, *You know this is a real surfer’s paradise.*

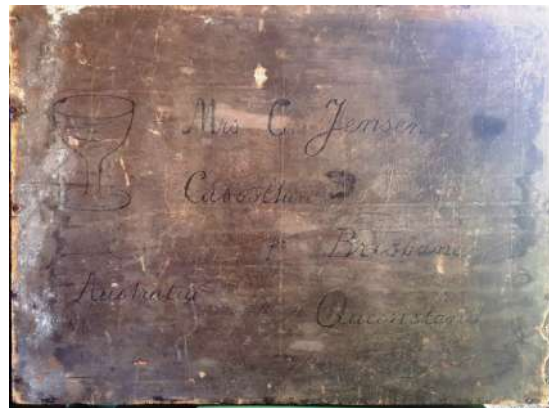
He registered the name in 1917. He was not the first to use that term as in **Truth** on 28 January 1917, an item mentioned that *Sydney is the Surfer’s Paradise* and Sydney papers already used that term to refer to various beaches there.

However Jensen surveyed the land into large allotments of over half and over a quarter acre sizes. In April 1917 Blackwood advertised ocean fronted lots for £50 and £40 each whilst inside lots of a quarter acre sold for £15. The name became more popular when Jim Cavill, formerly of the Kedron Park Hotel opened a hotel in 1923 on land he bought from the estate used the Surfers Paradise name.



Thor Hjelm Jensen was born in Copenhagen Denmark in 1885 and arrived with his parents Niels and Clara (nee Nielsen) Jensen in Queensland 1887.

The society has this shipping box lid with the forwarding address



Thor attended the Caboolture State School. He served under surveyors in Queensland and New South Wales and passed his Land Surveyors Examination and was registered at such on reaching 21 years. He worked for the Queensland Government surveying in Western Queensland and the Burnett District.



Thor on the left

In 1908 he bought an established practice in Brisbane and had an office in Queen Street. In 1911 he married Violet Madeline Ashton, eldest daughter of Harwood Ashton of Paddington. They had four daughters: Thoreen, Thyra Madeline, Viola and Elfreda Mary.

They lived in **Valhalla** on Rosemount Terrace.

When Thor bought the block in the Oakwal Estate and built the house c1910, he had uninterrupted views to the east with the mouth of Breakfast Creek and the Brisbane River clearly seen. This peaceful outlook was not to last as Bowser & Lever purchased almost all the blocks opposite his house and proceeded to create a quarry with all the nuisances of blasting and dust it caused. The house is still there and has been beautifully restored.



*In Scandinavian mythology,
Valhalla means "Home of the Gods" and
Thor is the "God of Thunder".*

When Valhalla was first built, Thor owned one of the first five cars in Brisbane, a T Model Ford, and as he drove by, people would suddenly appear on their front verandas to get a glimpse of it.

Not content with just being a surveyor, Thor then undertook studies to become an engineer in 1924. Later he combined his services also to become a consulting engineer for the Southport, Tara and Wambo Shire Councils. Thor supervised the building of the Pacific Highway from Burleigh to Coolangatta.



This Victorian era Clerk's Desk was purchased by Thor Jensen from a prominent early Brisbane Butcher and was used by Thor underneath his home "Valhalla" as a work bench. It can be viewed in the Mayor's room at the Council Chambers



Thor Hjelm Jensen

1885 - 1972



Violet Madeline Jensen

1889 - 1965

Courier Mail 27 June 1972

Named Surfers' Paradise

The man who "named" Surfers' Paradise died at the week-end.

He was former surveyor and civil engineer, Mr. Thor H. Jensen, 87. Danish - born, Mr. Jensen came to Australia in 1890.

He will be cremated at Mt. Thompson crematorium at 10.30 a.m. today.

Mr. Jensen qualified as a surveyor in 1908. After three years with the State Government, he went into private practice.

In 1917, he surveyed an estate for a private developer on what is now Surfers' Paradise.

Mr. Jensen stood on the beachfront and said to associates: "You know, this place is a real surfers' paradise."

The name stuck. Six years later, when the late Mr. Jim Cavill built a hotel there, he called it the Surfers' Paradise Hotel.

JENSEN, Thor Hjelm, of 30 Rosemount Terrace, Windsor.

Relatives and Friends of Mrs. Vhla Cowley, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Smyth and Family (U.S.A.), Mrs. Ellreda George and Family, and Miss Thoreen Jensen are invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved Father, Father-in-law, and Grandfather, Thor Hjelm Jensen, to be held in the EAST Chapel of the Mt. Thompson Crematorium, This (Tuesday) Morning, at 10.30 o'clock.

JOHN HISLOP & SONS PTY. LTD., A.F.D.A. Ph. 4 2841.

JENSEN, Thor Hjelm. — Queensland Division, Institution of Surveyors Australia. Members are invited to attend the Cremation Service for their late Fellow, T. H. Jensen, to be held as per Family Notice. By request of the President.



The Lutwyche

“Imperial” Picture Theatre

From 1915 to the early 1980s, a picture theatre existed on Lutwyche Road between East and High Streets.

The following history of the theatre was sourced from Don Fenwick, (Grandson of the original owner), and files held by the Windsor & Districts Historical Society.

Osborne James Fenwick (**known as OJ**) was born in York England in 1871, He came to Australia and married in Townsville in 1895. Here he established a business with his Brother-in-law, Thomas Melrose—”Melrose & Fenwick Monumental Masons” At this time OJ became interested in politics. In 1911 he relocated to Brisbane where he built a house in Rose St Woolloowin and named it *Eboracum*, - the Roman name of his birth town ,York.



Osborne James Fenwick
1871—1953

OJ became interested in “moving pictures” and decided to have a picture pavilion built. On Sat. 29 May 1915 he opened the Lutwyche Imperial Picture Pavillion.



The venue was built as an open air theatre with a covered gallery at the rear with the projection room in the centre. It was reported that it was built on the principal that fresh air was better. Silent movies were projected onto the screen.

NEW PICTURE PAVILION LUTWYCHE.

As will be seen in our advertising columns, Saturday night next has been fixed for the opening of the Imperial Picture Pavilion at Lutwyche, and, in accordance with arrangements made some time ago, the Mayor of Windsor Alderman Chas. Taylor, will be present and declare the formal opening.

The newly-elected Parliamentary representative for Windsor, Mr. H. G. McPhail, will take part in the opening function.

Quite a pleasing departure has been made in the neat and attractive effect that has been secured in the external appearance of this pavilion, while the internal arrangements, so secure the comfort and increase the pleasure of patrons, are very distinctive and complete. All noisiness is abolished, so that instrumental and vocal music may be heard with pleasure. The spacious covered-in galleries are a distinct move in the right direction.

Daily Standard Brisbane Thursday 27th May 1915.

An event was held here on the evening of Friday May 11th 1917 where Soldiers from the Town of Windsor were given honour certificates in front of local citizens.



A refreshment shop existed in the open air space and was well attended by the patrons.



Throughout the 1920s it appeared that the theatre was also the home to the Windsor Eisteddfod, which appeared to have been held yearly in May.

I

Then in 1925 it appeared that people were sneaking in to the theatre over the 8 foot galvanised iron fence. The proprietor made the top of the fence jagged, but this didn't stop the local youths who threw bicycle tyres over the edge of the fence and climbed over. He then installed 4 feet of barbed wire along the top of the fence which still didn't stop them from getting in. Next he considered electrifying the wire on the fence, but instead decided to watch where he caught one 17 year old who was charged for trespass.

In 1928 O J Fenwick visited England and Ireland for research into "talking movies" and sound systems.

On Tuesday September 3rd 1929 it appeared that a new Imperial Picture Theatre had been constructed after a £5,000 investment.



The architect responsible for the building constructed was Mr. C.E. Plant and the contractor responsible for decorating the establishment was Warrendorp and Pike.

Also installed was an R.C.A. photophone system, which was the first of its kind in Queensland that enabled them to show the talkies at their theatre. The first film to be showed with this system was on Tuesday 3 September 1929. The film was named "On Trial".

Fenwick Installs RCA Photophone at Lutwyche.

BRISBANE, September 7.—Latest talkie house is the Imperial, Lutwyche, which is the first to open here with the RCA-Photophone equipment. Clarity, modulation of tone and well gauged volume made a great impression last week, and the system has come in for laudatory comment from patrons. O. J. Fenwick's intention is to show four nights a week with two programme changes for the present, but if business keeps up a switch will be made to an every night screening.



While the theatre had now been fitted for the talkies, it appears that throughout the 1930s it continued to be used as a venue for local community groups and performances.

With his interest in politics, OJ stood at one-time, a candidate in the federal seat of Brisbane—but was unsuccessful. He was heavily involved in the Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, and was a director of the Savoy Picture Theatre Company. (OJ also owned the Savoy Theatre at Clayfield)

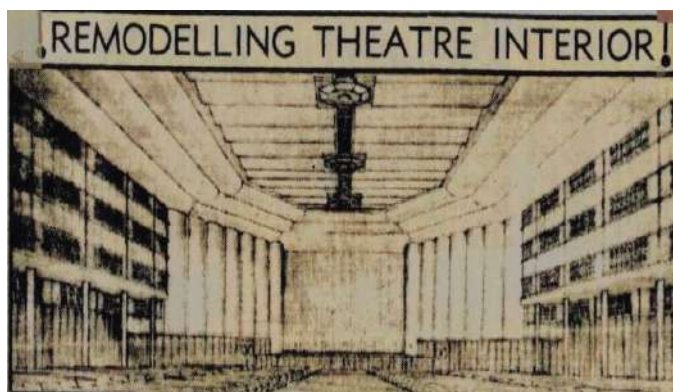


In November 1940 plans were revealed that showed what architectural alterations would be conducted to the interior of the Lutwyche Theatre for Mr. O.J. Fenwick.

It was following a trend that was occurring in the city theatres where proprietors were trying to achieve maximum comfort and effective control and distribution of sound.

The architects responsible for these works were Mr. R.W. Voller and Mr. C.E. Plant, who designed the building in 1929.

While the interior was to be reduced due to rounded features on the walls which would help diffusing sound and reducing volume, reverberation and echo, it would still hold 1,200 patrons.



After the alterations in the 1940s, a hatch was installed on the southern interior wall that would open to the **Imperial Café** next door. This was a convenient way for patrons to buy refreshments at interval time. This was very popular with the children who attended the Saturday matinees.

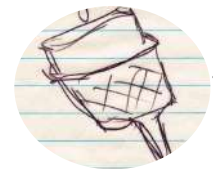


1950s



A member of the society had provided a memory of that time:

In the 1950's I attended the Saturday Matinees and enjoyed the program of 2 films, 1 newsreel, 1-2 cartoons and 1 serial. The admission cost was 9 pence for the front canvas seats and 1 shilling for anywhere else ,(padded seats up or down). At intervals I would go to the hatch and purchase soft drinks for 5 pence, small Cadbury chocolate bars 3-6 pence according to size. A special item was a flat cone with a hospital slice of ice cream inside.



go
for



1940s-1950s: No TV then — The Saturday Matinee was a great place for school children's entertainment

Another memory:

Who in the surrounding areas did not know and love the old Lutwyche Imperial and its owner Os. "Baldy" Fenwick. Children from miles around came to the Saturday matinee by tram or on foot to save their penny fare to buy a lolly at the theatre shop. All programs were comedies or cowboy films suitable for youngsters and the strict but kindly Os. Fenwick took no nonsense from any of them. He patrolled the aisles throughout the film looking for any miscreants and there were no second chances – out they went! In the evenings he and his ushers donned dinner suits and patrons knew they would have a great night out at the movies at Lutwyche Imperial.

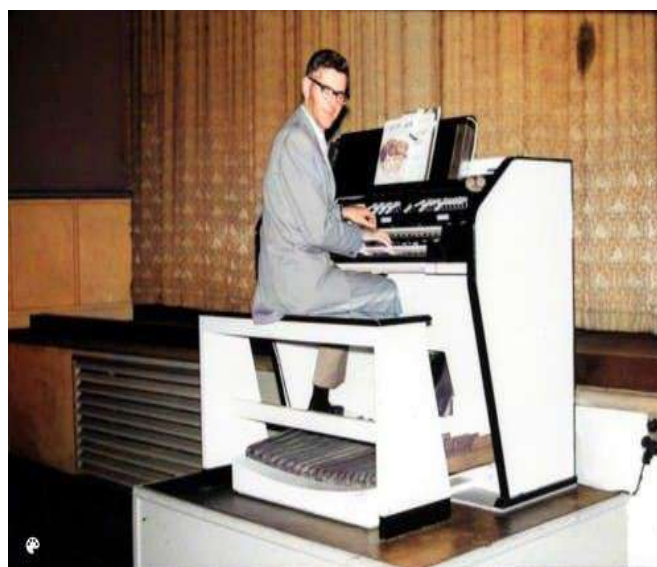
O J Fenwick died 17 July 1953 and the theatre passed into new management.



1965

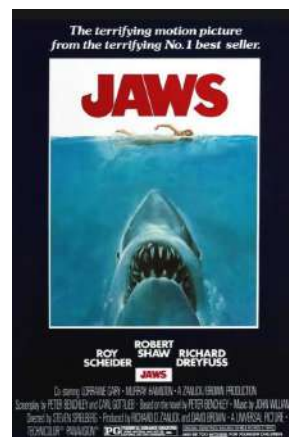


1960s



1966—Barry Bailey at the theatre organ

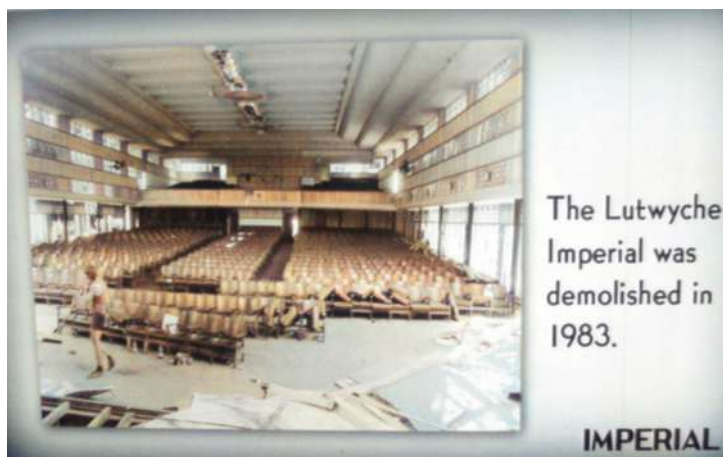
Movies continued to be shown into the 1970s, with many blockbusters being shown.



However, with patronage declining and colour television coming to Brisbane in 1975 it was decided, towards the end of the 1970s, to close the theatre .

The site that contained the theatre and shops from High St to East St was put up for auction in November 1979, and eventually demolished.

L.J. HOOKER LUTWYCHE
554 LUTWYCHE RD
LUTWYCHE
PROUDLY PRESENTS
TO BE AUCTIONED
AT 11 A.M. TUESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 1979
REDEVELOPMENT SITE
HIGH ST TO EAST ST
LUTWYCHE
BRISBANE
QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



The building that replaced it was home to Telecom/Telstra during the 1990s and at some stage it became a gym and swimming complex.



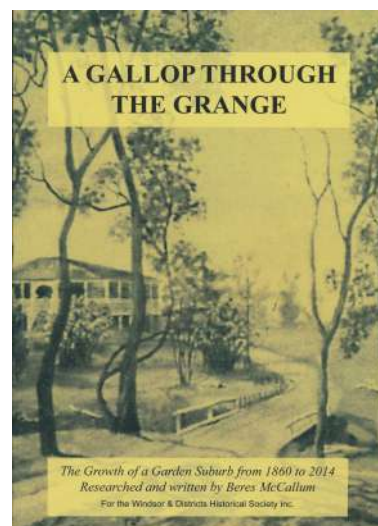
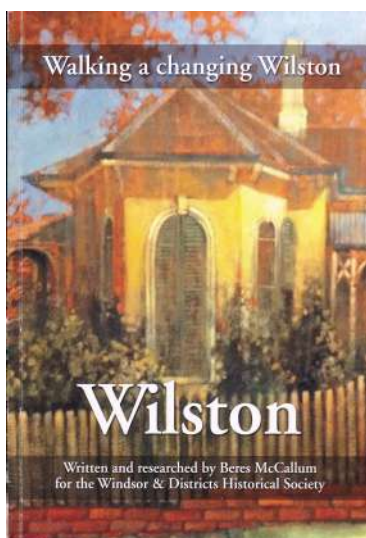
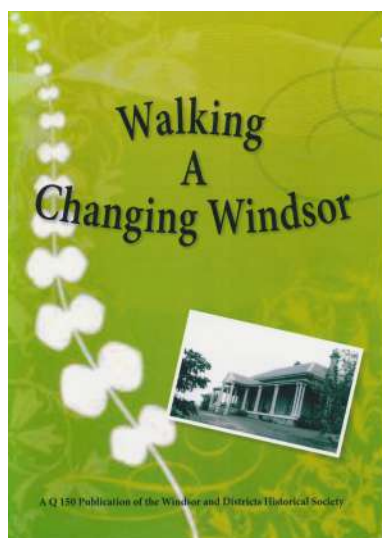
The building today

The Lutwyche Imperial Theatre holds a special place in the hearts of many - its memory, an enduring one. From the excitement of a Saturday Matinee to the glamour of a movie night, the experience of attending that theatre is something people will simply never forget.

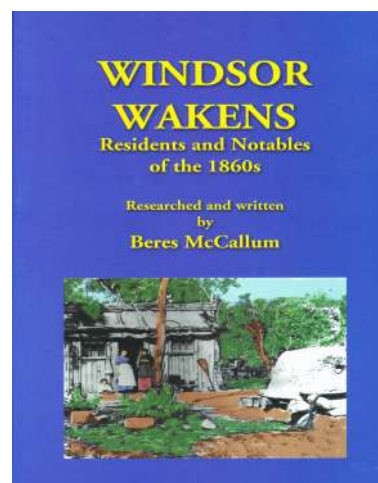
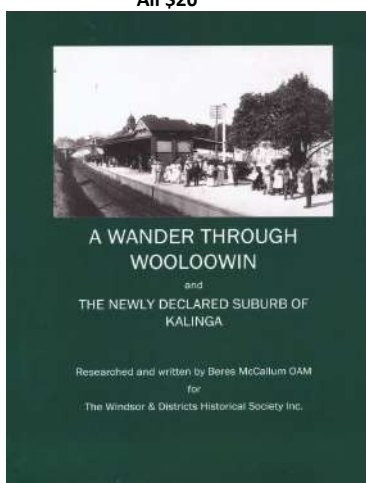
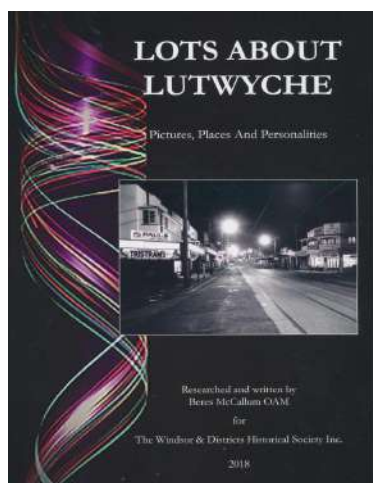
Local suburban history books are available for sale at the Chambers Sundays & Mondays 1pm—4pm

or

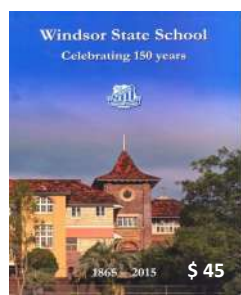
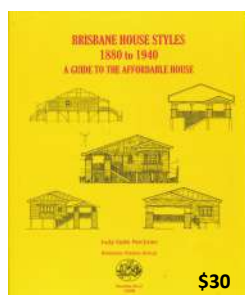
from our online bookshop at www.windsorhistorical.org.au



All \$20



The Society also has copies of the popular book “Brisbane House Styles 1880-1940” as well as the 150 years of Windsor State School History book.



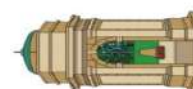
Debra Hood designed

Key Ring \$ 25

Tea Towel \$ 40

Postcards \$ 7

Great gifts for Christmas



**WINDSOR WAR MEMORIAL
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS 1925 - 2025**

Lanham Park

“Totem Poles”



In 2003, the Brisbane City Council planned to construct the -

“Council’s first interactive intelligent play area - the Lanham Park Discovery Path”.

After completion, invitations were issued to the opening day - Saturday 25 October 2003. The area was alongside the Grange Library.



The Discovery Path included some vertical metal poles containing information and photos of prominent past or current citizens from the local district.

These poles became known as the “Totem Poles”.

Over the years the poles had weathered and by 2021 the Council decided to conduct a renewal project.



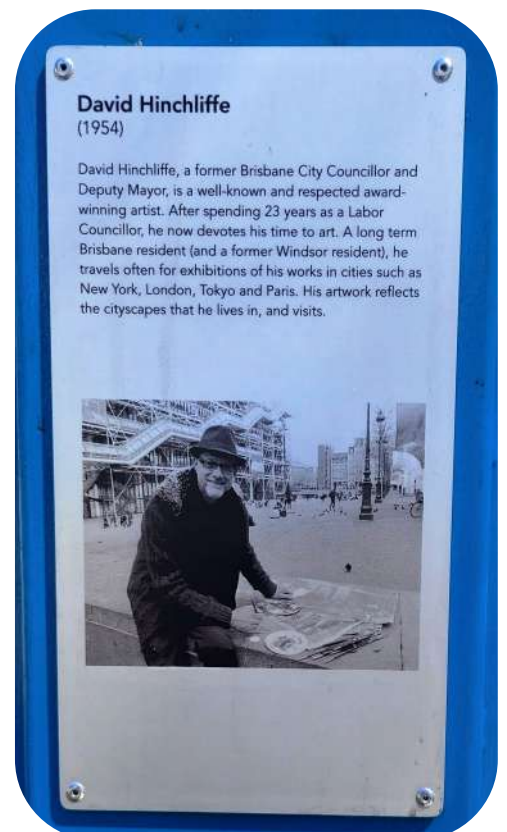
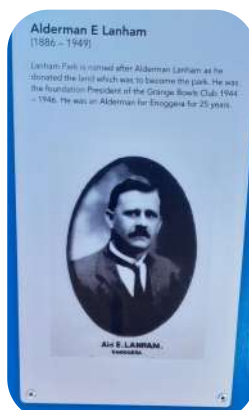
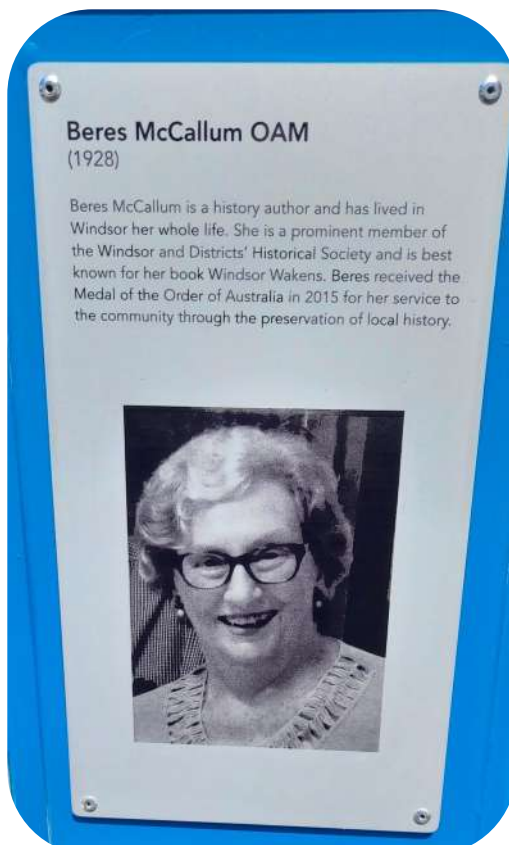


A special event was held 9 October 2021 for the local citizens to submit names to be considered for placement on the renewed Totem Poles.

The Windsor & Districts Historical Society submitted some names on that day.

Eventually 15 names were selected by the Council authorities and their photos and information were attached to the poles.

Foundation and life member of the society, Beres McCallum was one of these.



"The Windsor Council Chambers & the Society"

A poem by Jenny Roemermann

Life member of the society and a valued volunteer



In the old stone building up the hill,
so often passed, standing still,
I attend each week to help and guide,
explain and share snippets of history to those who come,
items of past lives.

There stands the old chambers built to guide,
Shire, then Town of Windsor wide.
now a focus of history and pride.

Built in 1897 from stone quarried nearby, kept in valued with pride of local
history.

Stone blocks outside, set side by side, inside walls with cracks that slide,
creep slowly, cared for and checked with regularity.

This place is honoured, a construction of taste, past skill and grace.

Now a base where history is shared.

How privileged to bear stories of past care, what items of interest and
fascination there.

Memories captured, interests shared, items like telephones, bottles and
bricks, household equipment, now obsolete. There are photos and
portraits, furniture and dates, of past lives states.

On display to share with those who call.

Welcome Come in !

Folk who live locally want to know about their house, history details so,
they may appreciate past times there.

Others just want to see inside ... curiosity ! The building is maintained
with love and care, regular inspections, repairs,
of present conditions, beware !

All is well for now, so we can share information there.

I attend weekly to volunteer time and knowledge, compare past activities
and life with visitors who come to appreciate history locally. Let's continue
to value this place and times, details, and how life changes so rapidly.



LATE NEWS



The Society has been informed of the passing of **Eric Millar**, a life member of the Society. Eric regularly attended the Anzac Day services as well as the society's meetings. He was always up for a good chat. Eildon Hill was another passion of Eric's & he kept a roving eye of the hill to make sure it was in good shape! Eric was just 7 months short of his 100th birthday.

Eric was the Great Grandson of one of Windsor's first settlers, Robert Lane.

