

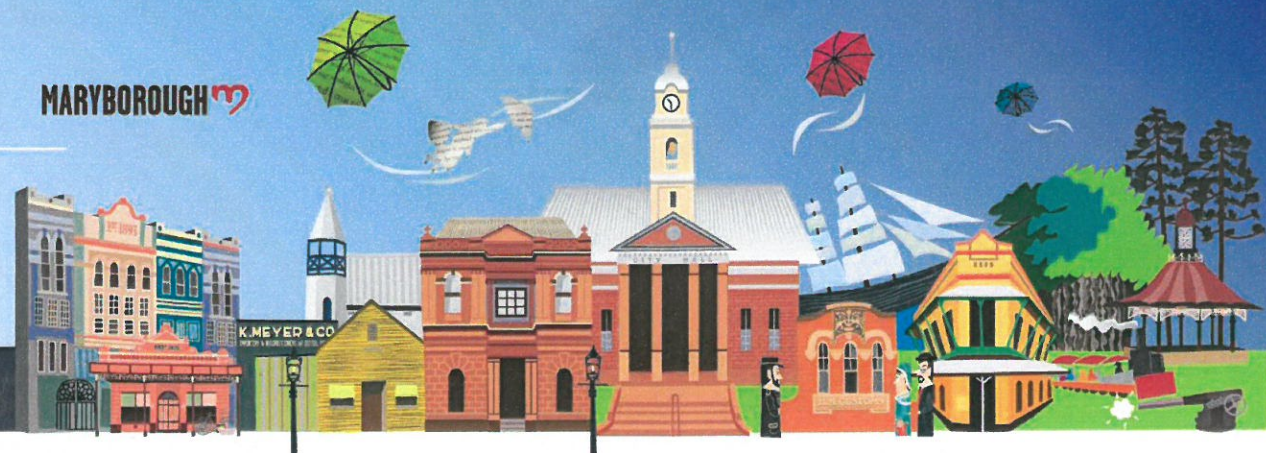
2016
7-9 OCTOBER

SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND Small Museums Conference

MARYBOROUGH

Storytelling

Reinterpreting the museum experience



PROGRAM

FRIDAY 7 OCTOBER. The Bond Store, Wharf Street. Maryborough

Time	Session
5.30pm - 7.30pm	Conference Welcome. "Tipples and Tales" tastings and nibbles (complimentary first drink)

SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER. Brolga Theatre, 5 Walker Street. Maryborough

Time	Session	Presenter
8.30am - 8.50am	Conference registration – tea and coffee	
8.50am - 8.55am	Welcome by Fraser Coast Regional Council Mayor – Councillor Chris Loft	Cr Chris Loft
8.55am - 9.00am	Official Opening by Bruce Saunders MP, Member for Maryborough	Bruce Saunders MP
9.00am - 9.35am	Welcome to Country & Indigenous Story Telling – "The Legends of Moonie Jarl"	Glenn Miller
9.35am - 9.45am	Introduction to Conference	Cr George Seymour – Heritage Portfolio Councillor - FCRC
9.45am - 10.15am	KEY NOTE SPEAKER	Emma Best – Newcastle Museum
10.15am - 10.45am	Morning Tea/networking	
10.45am - 11.15am	Case Study – Maryborough Story Trail & Portside Redevelopment	Lisa Stephenson – Executive Manager Cultural Services FCRC
11.15am - 11.45am	The Ration Shed Museum – How to present difficult stories	Robyn Hofmeyr – Ration Shed Museum Cherbourg
11.45am - 12.15pm	The Griffiths Photographic Collection - Engaging volunteers and the community in storytelling	Jane Harding – Heritage Librarian, Noosa Library Service
12.15pm - 1.15pm	Lunch	
1.15pm - 1.45pm	Reinterpreting collections through art	Judy Barass – Artist and Independent Curator
1.45pm - 2.45pm	Collections Management – Telling stories through objects	Lydia Eggunike – Museums Development Officer
2.45pm - 3.15pm	You don't have to do it alone - Case Study: History Pin Project- digital memorial collaborative project – Maryborough Library & Maryborough Historical Society	Kathy Shilvock – Information Services Librarian, Maryborough Library Ken Brooks – Curator, Brennan & Geraghty's Store Museum
3.15pm - 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea/networking	
3.30pm - 4.00pm	PechaKucka	Various museums
4.00pm - 4.15pm	First day wrap-up/housekeeping	Cr George Seymour - FCRC
5.15pm - 6.30pm	City by Night walking tour (new tour)	Tour Guides
6.30pm	CONFERENCE DINNER - \$50	Muddy Waters Café – Wharf Street. (2 course dinner, first drink)

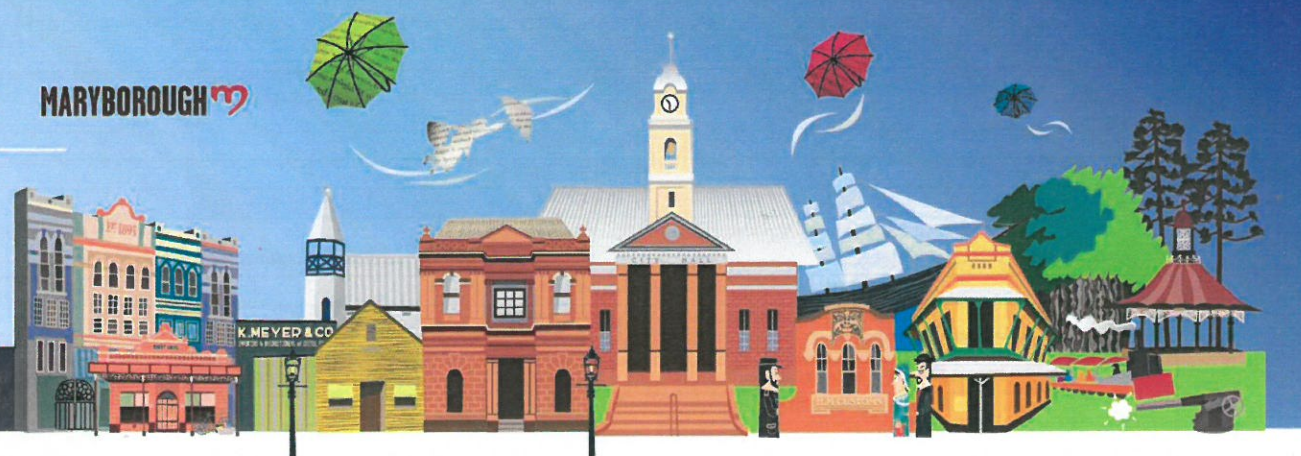
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SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER. Brolga Theatre, Walker Street. Maryborough

Time	Session	Presenter
9.00am - 9.30am	<i>Recording Oral Histories</i>	Hamish Sewell
9.30am - 10.30am	<i>Museum Education Program Development</i>	Janis Hanley
10.30am - 10.45am	<i>Morning Tea/networking</i>	
10.45am - 11.15am	<i>Museum Education Program</i>	Janis Hanley
11.15am - 11.45am	<i>Case Study – Maryborough Open House- let your buildings tell their own stories</i>	Cr George Seymour – Heritage Portfolio Councillor - FCRC
11.45am - 12.45pm	<i>Panel Discussion</i>	
12.45pm - 1.15pm	<i>Conference wrap-up and close. Light lunch.</i>	Cr George Seymour – Heritage Portfolio Councillor - FCRC

Register for the 2016 South East Queensland Small Museums Conference

Contact Fraser Coast Regional Council's Senior Arts and Cultural Officer, Susan Rogers

Phone: (07) 4190 5723

Email: susan.rogers@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Web: <http://www.ourfrasercoast.com.au/small-museums-conference>

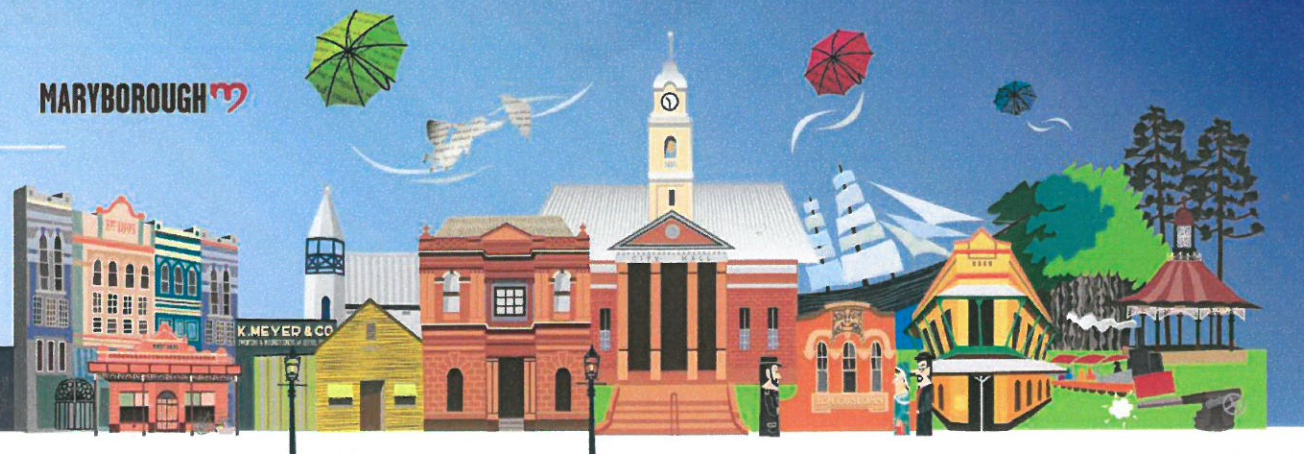
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PROFILES

KEY NOTE SPEAKER

Emma Best - Newcastle Museum

"I've been a museum geek pretty much all my life, but happily for the last 15 years I've been very fortunate to be a paid museum geek. I'm a New Zealand-trained primary school teacher, but have since worked in museum education, formal and informal. I've also been fortunate to work in exhibition development, public programmes, and online – where my interpretation skills are utilised in all these areas. I'm a proud Kiwi (I've been assured I still sound like one) and have worked at Otago Museum (Dunedin) and the National Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa in Wellington. Since 2011 I have been at Newcastle Museum, NSW doing stuff like teaching chemistry and palaeontology to pre-schoolers (madness!), history to primary students and engaging with people with disabilities and the aged involving dead stuffed things, squid and coprolites.

I don't miss the cold or wind but am not a great fan of the huge amount and type of Aussie creatures that want to poison, bite and/or eat me...

I am a failed shy wallflower and much like, where appropriate, a more quirky, unexpected, yes – even daggy approach to public engagement. I like to surprise people with the unexpected in places where people have traditional expectations. When not on outreach or working front of house I can be found hidden behind a wall partition protecting my mess of a desk and the inordinate number of objects which are testament to the years of being a collector of all things interesting, and believe me, the world is full of interesting stuff."

OTHER SPEAKERS

Lisa Stephenson – Executive Manager Cultural Services FCRC

Case Study – Maryborough Story Trail & Portside Redevelopment

Lisa is the Executive Manager, Community and Culture, Fraser Coast Regional Council. She worked in the Queensland tourism industry for several decades before stepping into the world of local government and the business of making a community more vibrant and liveable. During her time with Tourism Queensland, she was thrown the challenge of seeing if the "word wide web" could be a useful marketing tool and training travel agents how to use a mouse and the internet to book their client's holidays (*yes, we are talking last century!*). These days, she continues to seek new opportunities and thrives on motivating her team and community to be inspired to share their story in creative and engaging ways.

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Robyn Hofmeyr – Ration Shed Museum Cherbourg

The Ration Shed Museum – How to present difficult stories

Sandra Morgan is the chairperson of the Cherbourg Historical Precinct, the home of the Ration Shed Museum. Robyn Hofmeyr is the museum co-ordinator. Robyn and Sandra have worked closely for a number of years, initially co-producing a variety of community films and since 2009 collaborating (together with the Cherbourg community) on the development of the Ration Shed to what it is today. Sandra and Robyn are both passionate about the Ration Shed as a place to educate, to build bridges and to promote reconciliation through understanding for all who pass through its gates – the Cherbourg community, Indigenous peoples from across Queensland and interstate, schools in the South Burnett and South East Queensland and the many general visitors, Australian and from abroad.

Sandra Morgan is a community Elder who grew up in Cherbourg – living the first part of her life under the Aboriginal Protection Act. She has worked tirelessly for her community in a number of roles. She is driven by her desire to help raise the Cherbourg and other Indigenous communities and her passion to collect, collate and tell the stories of her people, her ancestors and her community.

Robyn is passionate about community development issues and engaging with local communities to tell their own stories and share their life experiences. Coming from a background of using film and video media as an educational and social development tool, she has worked on many community projects in Australia and South Africa.

Jane Harding – Heritage Librarian, Noosa Library Service

The Griffiths Photographic Collection - engaging volunteers and the community in storytelling

Griffiths Collection is a small portion of the many years of work by local photographer Sam Griffiths, his son Bill and Bill's wife Sue. The entire collection was believed lost for many years until a single box was discovered in a local office and brought to the library. Containing approximately 5,400 frames it is a significant and fascinating collection of images that documents events in and around the Noosa Shire in the late 1960s and 1970s. A group of volunteers at Noosa Library with training from Museum Development Officer Lydia Egunkike and under the guidance of Heritage Librarian Jane Harding spent 18 months assessing condition, indexing and rehousing the collection in order to make this collection publicly accessible as a tool for community storytelling and historical discovery.

Jane Harding is the Heritage Librarian (among other things, as required) at Noosa Library Service. She worked in advertising, tourism and legal services before rediscovering her childhood dream of being a librarian. She feels fortunate to have been able to combine her passion for public libraries and community with her enthusiasm for local and social history (sparked initially by an interest in family history) into her current professional role. For the past approximately 9 years, she has had the privilege of working with the Noosa community, discovering, documenting, preserving and interpreting the many and varied stories of its past and meeting many of the locals (or their descendants) who are part of these stories along the way.

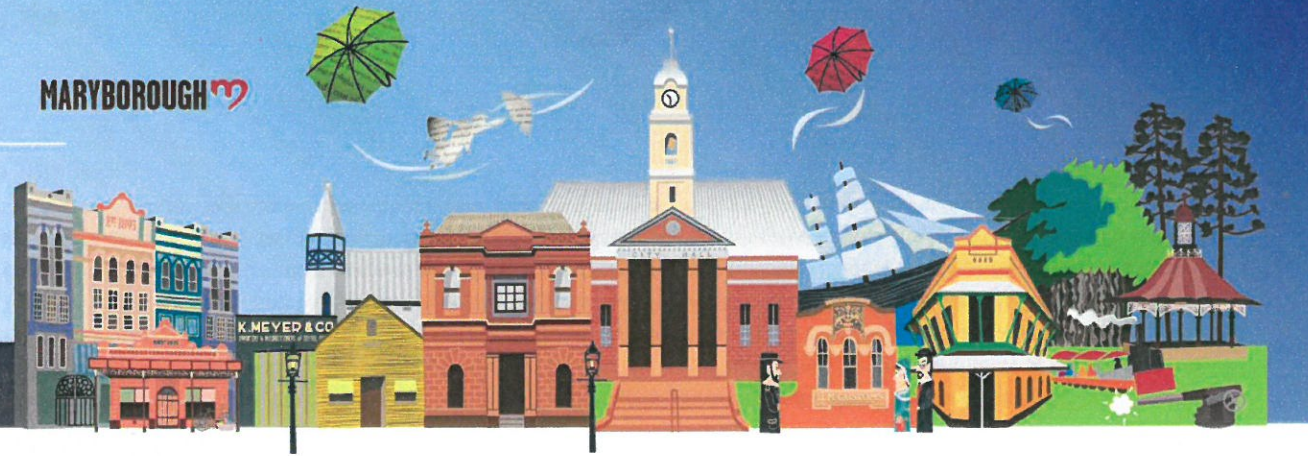
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Judy Barrass – Artist and Independent Curator

Reinterpreting collections through art

Judy Barrass is passionate about the role contemporary artists can have in reinvigorating and reinterpreting the stories told in museums and historical collections. She will present examples of her own and others' works that activate the space between historical collections and the audience, telling new stories, provoking and questioning accepted wisdom and building a broader community interest in stories from the past.

Judy has worked as an artist in residence at historic sites in NSW, Queensland and Tasmania and has recently been part of 'Fibro Coast' an exhibition celebrating S.E. Queensland's post war coastal architecture. In 2011/12 she curated a project bringing artists together with museums and collections in Maryborough, and is currently curating a similar project for Gympie's 150th anniversary. Judy Barrass will present examples of her own and others' works that activate the space between historical collections and the audience, telling new stories, provoking and questioning accepted wisdom and building a broader community interest in stories from the past. Her presentation will look at ways artists working with museums, historical sites and collections can reconfigure and reinvigorate interpretations of the past, develop new relationships and broader audiences, and bring extra skills, creativity and imagination into the museum context.

Lydia Eggunike – Museums Development Officer

Collections management – telling stories through objects

Lydia Eggunike

Lydia is a Museum Development Officer (MDO) with Queensland Museum. She is based in Toowoomba and works with heritage organisations throughout Southern Queensland from Bundaberg across to the Diamantina and down to the NSW border. Prior to becoming an MDO, Lydia was in charge of the Conservation Unit at State Library of Queensland. Lydia has been involved in numerous displays and exhibitions in a range of roles. This has given her a strong understanding of how to use collections objects effectively and the importance of adopting a holistic approach to collection management and object interpretation.

Collections Management – telling stories through objects

It is almost a cliché to say that every object tells a story. In fact an object can't tell a story. It is those interpreting the object that are telling the stories by exploring physical evidence and provenance details, accompanying information including object files, and other related primary and secondary sources. Who, what, how and where was the object made? Who owned it and how was it used? And so on... Many stories can be told about one object and these stories will have diverse values and meanings that will be received in different ways by different audiences. To successfully discover, document, preserve and interpret these stories a clear understanding of both the object and the potential audiences are required. This presentation will explore how the use of effective collection management practices are fundamental to developing well-conceived, well delivered, engaging and dynamic stories. It will also explore the perceived conflict between interpretation and long term preservation of collections.

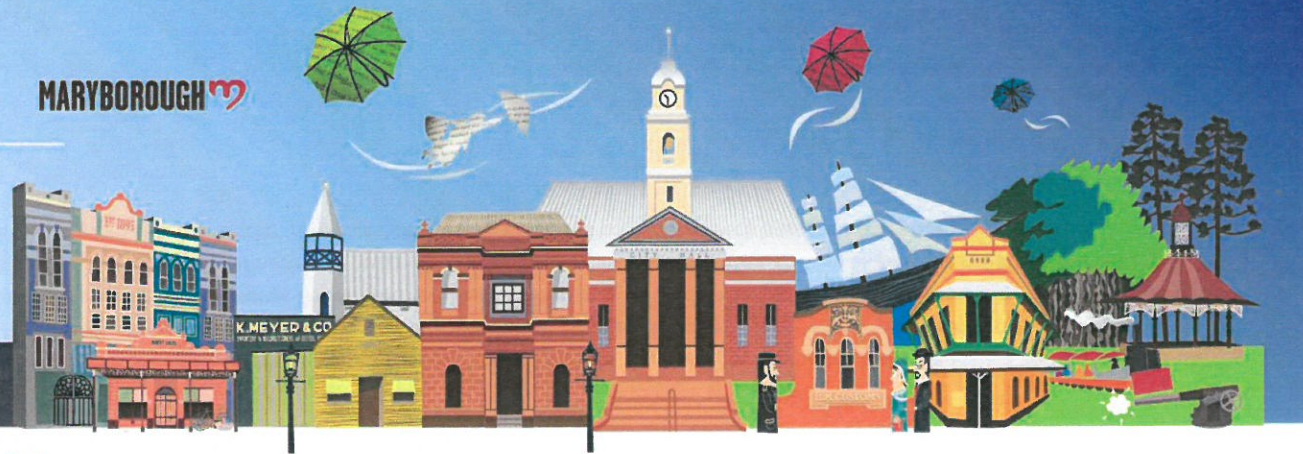
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Kathy Shilvock – Information Services Librarian, Maryborough Library

Ken Brooks – Curator, Brennan & Geraghty's Store Museum

You don't have to do it alone - Case Study: History Pin Project- digital memorial collaborative project – Maryborough Library & Maryborough Historical Society

HistoryPin project

As part of State Library of Queensland and HistoryPin grant, an innovative digital memorial project was undertaken to help build Maryborough's story of the First World War.

The collaboration with the Maryborough and Wide Bay Burnett Historical Society was developed to digitise, catalogue and provide public access to the rich image content stored with the Libraries and the Historical Society. Fraser Coast Libraries working in partnership with the Maryborough and Wide Bay Historical Society explored the themes of patriotism through historical community activity. The project is hoped to be a launching pad for digitisation of other content in partnership with local museums.

Kathy Shilvock

Kathy has had diverse experience in various educational settings. She has a Science Degree, a Master of Education and a Master of Teacher Librarianship. She has worked for the Department of Environment and Heritage as an Interpretation Ranger on Fraser Island, Coastal Education Officer for the State and the Education Officer at Fleays Wildlife Park on the Gold Coast. Teaching experience has been gained in both the public and private sector. Her positions as Academic Advisor, Liaison and Tutor at the University of Southern Queensland Fraser Coast Campus primarily focused on developing the confidence of regional students to succeed with academic writing and mathematical skills in an online environment. She currently works as the Information Services Librarian at Fraser Coast Libraries. Her responsibilities include the Information literacy classes for adults and the Local History content of the libraries. She lives in Maryborough and is passionate about bridging the digital gap and fostering pride in the Fraser Coast community.

Ken Brooks

Ken Brooks is a well-known and active Maryborough historian. He has a Diploma in Museum Management and manages Brennan & Geraghty's Store Museum, which is owned by the National Trust of Australia, Queensland. The National Trust purchased, what was then known as Geraghty's Store, in 1975. The store opened as a museum about itself and its place in the community of Maryborough in November, 1990. Ken is also the President of the Maryborough Wide Bay and Burnett Historical Society Inc. Ken became involved with Australian history in general as a small boy visiting historic properties in Sydney and then Melbourne. He became involved with the National Trust in Victoria after they purchased the historic property Labassa. Ken works together with a number of volunteers on different projects, including exhibitions drawn from original material from the Brennan & Geraghty ledgers, trade magazines and newspaper articles. Ken also runs the National Trust Historic Interiors Resource Centre which was established in 1996 to document the moveable heritage culture associated with Queensland Interiors. In 2004, the National Trust relocated its Brisbane Head Office and subsequently needed a new home for the collection so it was moved to Maryborough with Ken as curator. Ken has worked with the library on digitisation of images in 2016 as HistoryPin project officer for Fraser Coast Libraries and continues the partnership on behalf of the society in a voluntary basis.

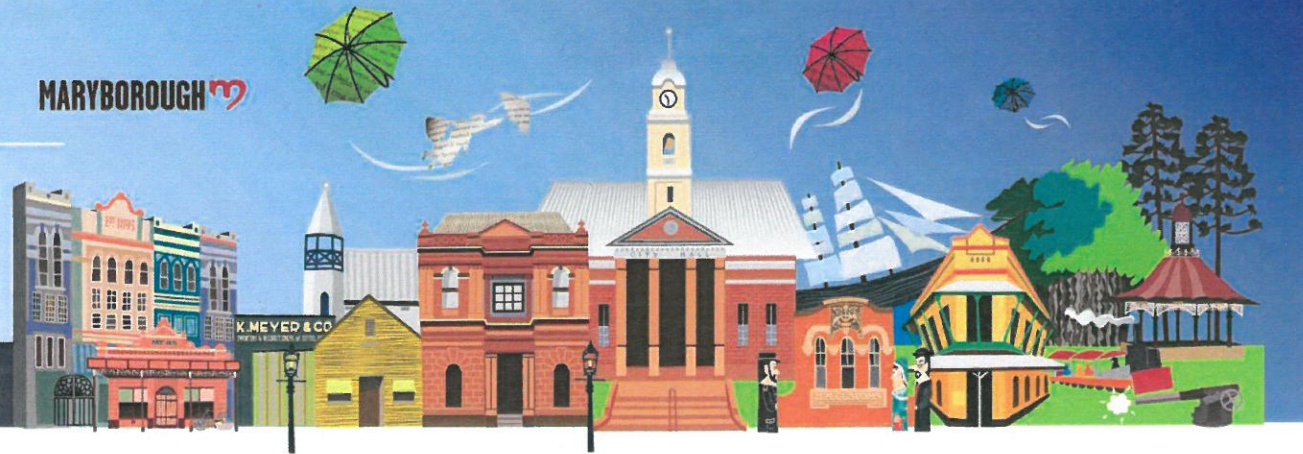
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Hamish Sewell

Recording Oral Histories

Hamish Sewell has a background in writing and oral history and today works as an independent radio journalist based at the creative incubator, the Old Ambo, in Nambour. He is the founder of the geo-locative audio app Soundtrails, has produced many radio documentaries on regional communities and has a passion for audio place making. Hamish is currently running Soundtrails and overseeing the up-and-coming Nimbin Soundtrail. He is also working with a motley crew patching together The Nambour Variety Show podcast and has just finished a Radio National autobiographical feature based on a transsexual's troubled relationship with her father.

Janis Hanley

Museum Education Program development

Janis Hanley (B.Comm, Grad Cert Policy Analysis, Master. Arts & Media (Hons)) is a museum educator and principal consultant of Ed Program Design. Janis's interest lies in raising awareness of local heritage, and exploring ways to inspire students about the 'treasures' to be found in the streets, local museums, and the environment around them. Her areas of research are digital stories as learning activities, and the value created by community museums.

Janis can be contacted by email: info@edprogramdesign.com.au and mobile: 0412615483. Her webpage is www.edprogramdesign.com.au

Workshop: Museums as Learning Spaces for Schools

Small museums are wonderful places for students to engage with local history, and to understand global events through the local stories. An authentic museum environment is rich for engagement, and interacting with people who have lived experiences of history can inspire interest. This practical workshop is designed for small museums, to help engage schools and students in discovering the museum's collection, interacting with volunteers and enjoying the myriad stories.

Topics included understanding the 21st Century student, connecting with the Australian Curriculum, elements of creating engaging activities, and simple steps to embrace the digital.