

Email: oberonmuseum@gmail.com Phone: 0418 671 754
Website: <https://oberonmuseum.com> Instagram [oberonmuseum](#)



Lindsay Brien working on his property, "Ferndale", circa 1922

From the President

This newsletter is primarily to advise our members of our AGM date, as it is slightly earlier this year. The AGM will be on August 9th at 10.30am at the Museum. Please see the form attached for nominations and when they need to be submitted. Each year all positions are open for nominations, and each nomination must be moved and seconded by a member.

As we have just entered a new financial year, museum memberships are now due. Membership remains at \$15.00, and remember you must be a member to vote at the AGM. See reminder note.

The More Oberon Treasures committee has found a way forward and has started the process of setting out the book for printing. Thanks to local sponsorship we will be able to sell the print run for \$20.00 each book. To make sure we print enough books we are asking those interested to order their books using the order form attached to this newsletter. Only those who order are guaranteed a copy at the \$20.00 price. Each of the 'treasures'

will get a complimentary copy plus an order form.

At a recent meeting our committee discussed a proposal to display three items of sawmilling equipment from the Timber Industries sawmill, at the museum. These items are part of the demolition of the TI buildings and will be scrapped unless they are set aside for display. The committee sees a display of this equipment would be a way telling the story of the Cotton family who were instrumental in establishing timber processing plants in Oberon. This is a one-off opportunity and the committee was in favour of having the display at the museum, although there is much to be done before this can happen.

A recent donation to the museum by Peter Harvey is a steel brick making mould. This mould was used to make concrete bricks for some of the out buildings at Sunnypoint in the 1950's.

Col Roberts.

Membership Renewals

Membership fees for the 2026 - 2027 financial year are now due. Please consider this as your renewal notice.

You can pay your \$15

- in person, by dropping in to the museum during opening hours (Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays 10.30am - 12.30pm), or
- by posting it, with your name, to The Secretary, Oberon District Museum, P.O. Box 239, Oberon 2787, or
- by Direct Deposit to Oberon District Museum, BSB 062 632, Account Number 00901068. Make sure you include your name.

New membership application forms are available from the museum itself, from the Secretary, or from our website (under Support Us), but you do not need to complete one of these for renewals.

AGM

It's that time of the year again - our **Annual General Meeting** will be on

- **Sunday, 9th August, starting at 10.30am**
- **Venue: the Museum (Scotia Avenue, Oberon)**

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Museum or the Secretary. Ring 0418 671 754

Nominations are due to the Secretary by **Sunday, 2nd August**.

Please come along to hear reports from the President and the Treasurer, and to elect the 2026/2027 Committee. Morning tea will be provided.

A visit from Joyce and her daughters

The photo on the front of this newsletter features Joyce Ballinger's father, Lindsay Brien. It is one of several on display at the museum of particular interest to Joyce and her family.



In the photo opposite Joyce is with daughters Carolyn Vitnell and Dianne Slattery. The photo she is holding shows pupils from Titania school where Joyce's grandfather, Joseph Harris, was the Principal. Two of her uncles are also in the photo. The Titania school was opened in 1872 as the Fish River school, and it was renamed Titania in 1904.

This is not the first time Joyce has visited the museum. Back in 2023 we were lucky enough to have her share her deep knowledge of earlier times in Oberon, particularly in regards to the pottery streetscape on display in the Muir Pavilion. She's here talking with secretary Pam Dellow.



And of course Joyce is one of the "Oberon Treasures" featured on our website. To find out more about her life, and that of many others, go to <https://oberonmuseum.com> and click on More Oberon Treasures.

More Oberon Treasures

The More Oberon Treasures project is almost finished with most of the stories already on the site (as well as in folders in the Library and Museum). This project has been going for almost two years and the team thinks it's time to draw to a close. Perhaps others will pick up the idea sometime in the future and continue to gather stories from older residents! We are excited at the prospect of turning the project into a book which, hopefully, will come to fruition well before the end of this year. See the attached document for more information on how to order one of these books.

In the meantime - why not pay the Museum a visit? You won't be disappointed!