

FONR



NEWS

John Busst's relatives at Ninney Rise

Joe Woodward and his family, a relative of John Busst, visited Ninney Rise on 3rd of September. Joe sent an email following his visit.

Hi Sandal,

It was so kind of you to take us through Ninney Rise. Such a beautiful place. I really enjoyed your tour and hearing about John, and with the photos and pictures there got a real feel for who he was (he died just before I was born). In the family we are certainly very proud of John and his achievements, and very grateful to you and all the Committee for the work you do in looking after Ninney Rise and keeping John's legacy alive.

My surname is Woodward, my wife is Yvette, Theo (10) and Elliot (8) were the two boys you met. My grandfather, also named John (or Woody) was John Busst's cousin (Woody's father was brother of John Busst's mum). Woody and John grew up in Melbourne together, they were very close in age and good friends. John was also very fond of my father (also named John!) and they corresponded with each other over the years. I hope that's enough information, let me know if you need more. I'm sending some photos through in a separate email.

Thanks again Sandal for making our Bingil Bay visit so special.

Regards,

Joe





The Breuckner sisters remember Ninney Rise

We received a call last week from Leanne Breuckner asking if she and her two sisters could visit Ninney Rise. The Breuckner sisters were taking a trip down memory lane with a visit to Mission Beach. The three girls grew up on a banana farm in the small house at Marcs Park that is now known as the guides house. The then Johnstone Shire Council purchased the Breuckner family farm and subdivided the lot into housing to provide the community with a public park now known as Marcs Park.

The Breuckners also owned a fruit farm at Bingil Bay in Pioneer Street nearby Ninney Rise. Their parents were friends of John and Alison Busst and they remember visiting often when the eldest sister, Leanne, was around 8 years of age.



And Diane Harney, Virginia Boyanton and Leanne Brueckner at Ninney Rise

Their first comment when shown through to the eastern verandah was their memory of the open view of the ocean without the rainforest growing along the front as it is now.



The sisters said they had very little recollection about John and Ali as they were mostly playing outside while their parents were socializing with the Bussts. Their memories of the house as children were the very large ceilings lined with bamboo, and the impression the house was built too close to the edge of the cliff. The children were too scared to play on the eastern side of the house.



Leanne said she remembered the driveway to the house always being an exciting adventure. It felt like it was a big long drive in a big loop before coming to the house. The property at that time was much larger and the grounds more open with the trees the Bussts planted being very young. They will be checking their parent's photo collection and letters to see if there is any reference to their visits.

Repair work to doors and windows at Ninney Rise

FoNR would like to thank QPWS for their generous support in providing labour for the urgent repair works carried out on the windows and doors along the weather exposed eastern side of Ninney Rise. The work brings Ninney Rise one step closer to being restored to the Busst era.



Margaret Thorsborne Library catalogued

It is wonderful to see the activity at Ninney Rise. Led by librarian Judy Heath, volunteers are cataloguing the extensive Margaret Thorsborne library with the Dewey library system. They are also recording the many personal messages written in the books



The books reflect Margaret's interests - in art, plants, animals, conservation, World War One, the Antarctic, biography and much else. They are also a tribute to her wide friendships as many titles were gifts.



The photo of Margaret Thorsborne AO (left) was taken in May 2017 at the official launch of the library. Margaret is holding an art book of Leonardo Da Vinci, the first book she ever purchased at age 17.

"I gifted the books to FoNR and Ninney Rise," said Margaret. "I felt they'd be looked after there and it seemed a suitable place, because it was a place of historic importance and it was involved with the care of the natural environment".

New volunteer looking after grounds at Ninney Rise

FoNR welcomes volunteer, Jo Senior, who is helping to maintain the park like gardens of Ninney Rise. Jo will be focusing on weeding and manicuring the grounds around the house.



Book Club meeting held at Ninney Rise



A Mission Beach book club enjoyed an evening at Ninney Rise for their latest meeting. The members were very impressed by the house and its history. Photo Judy Heath