



---

## April 2006 Newsletter



### In this issue:

- Page 4      Anzac Day 2006
- Page 5      Corporal George Morton
- Page 7      "Albert" moves to Balmoral



## **Who we are**

Formed on 28 July 2001, the Friends of Balmoral Cemetery Inc is a band of committed volunteers who are working to protect and preserve Balmoral Cemetery, an important part of Brisbane's history and which opened in the 1870's.

The Friends' motto of "Restoration, Respect, Responsibility" serves as a reminder that we can all play a part in protecting our heritage in our own small way.

Friends of Balmoral Cemetery was incorporated in 2003 and is an independent, not-for-profit association.

## What we do

The Balmoral Cemetery is an important community Resource as well as a place of respect. In a way, it's a bit like an open-air museum! Some of our district's earliest written history and monumental artwork can be found at Balmoral.

Friends of Balmoral Cemetery works to improve the appearance of the site through clean ups, tree pruning, rubbish removal and restoration work. The Friends also work on an ongoing project to document the history of the cemetery and prepare heritage trails.

## Become a friend

Friends of Balmoral Cemetery Inc is a volunteer Organisation and local community members are welcome to become involved. For more information about the Friends, or to join, please

**Write:** PO Box 330, Morningside Q 4170

**Telephone:** 07 3395 7916

**Email:** [bettysinden@bigpond.com](mailto:bettysinden@bigpond.com)

**Visit our website:** [www.balmoralcemetery.com](http://www.balmoralcemetery.com)

FOBC Inc meets on the second Wednesday of each month (except January) from 7:30pm at the Morningside Services Club, Wynnum Road, Morningside.

**Members and observers welcome.**

***Acknowledgements and contributors to this edition:***

Betty Sinden, Stan Morton, Kylie Johnston, Australian Was Memorial.

## Anzac Day: remembering all Australians who have gone to war



On 25 April, hundreds of thousands of Australians will commemorate the 91st anniversary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli. This special day is also a time to remember all Australians who have gone to war.

Balmoral Cemetery is the final resting place of many men and women who have served Australia in times of conflict. FOBC is currently undertaking a research project specifically related to Pacific campaigns. And we need your help. We would greatly appreciate your assistance and relevant information, which can be supplied to Betty Sinden, FOBC Secretary, PO Box 257, Bulimba Q 4171. Are any of these brave men related to you?:

**BEDINGTON**, Ivan George  
**BEH**, Mervyn Sydney  
**BEITZ**, Graham Victor  
**BLACK**, Evan Ernest  
**BRADFORD**, William Ernest G  
**BROWN**, William George  
**CLEGG**, Allan Shillington  
**CHARTER**, Henry William J  
**CHRISTIE**, Charles Stewart  
**CURRY**, Albert Edward  
**DOCHERTY**, James Wilson  
**DOUGLAS**, Vincent John  
**EDWARDS**, Albert James  
**FLETCHER**, John William  
**FREY**, Gordon Leslie William  
**GRAYSON**, John Robert McLeod  
**GREENUP**, Clive Robert

**HAMALAINEN**, Frans Ephrain  
**HUGHES**, Leslie  
**HUTCHISON**, Charles Edward  
**HUTCHISON**, George Frederick  
**JORGENSEN**, Desmond M  
**JUSTER**, Gordon L  
**KEOGH**, James Edward  
**MATHERS**, Lloyd Gladstone  
**MCINTYRE**, George Jamieson  
**MCKELVEY**, Robert Hobill  
**MCKENZIE**, Gordon Stewart  
**MOODIE**, James George  
**PARKINSON**, Desmond Stan  
**ROWNTREE**, Harold  
**TIERNEY**, William Vincent  
**WEBB**, George Edward

## **Corporal George Morton**

George Samuel Gray Morton was born in Bundaberg, Queensland on 12 May 1898.

His father George Snr was a schoolteacher and young George attended school in Laidley, Lake Clarendon and Glen Grove. His father owned property at Lake Clarendon Lower, from which he donated two acres of land to the State Government to build a school. Lake Clarendon Lower was named Morton Vale in his honour and the Morton Vale State School is located on the site.

At Gatton on 24 May 1916, at the age of 18, George Jnr enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force. He listed his trade as "farmer". During 1916 he served with a number of units before going overseas. George left Sydney on the HMAT 'Euripides' on 31 October 1917, serving in the 26/15 Battalion. He returned home on the HMAT 'Runic' on 23 September 1918 and was discharged from the army on 28 January 1919. George was issued with the 1914/15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal for his dedicated service.

Following in his father's footsteps, in November 1919 George became a teacher and was appointed to the Fossilbrook State School on 29 March 1920. During his teaching career he also taught at schools at Nymbool, Springbrook, Mudgeeraba, Gowrie Junction and Blenheim.

On 23 April 1930, George married Irene Sprenger and on 9 September 1931 their son Stanley Grey Morton was born.

In 1942 George enlisted in the Volunteer Defence Corps with the rank of Lieutenant, and was appointed a Platoon Commander.

George was a teacher at Mudgeeraba State School for 13 years and when he was transferred from Mudgeeraba in 1946, a function was held at the Mudgeeraba and Springbrook Memorial Hall attended by over 250 people. George was an active member of a number of local sporting organisations, and he had a special interest in tennis and cricket. He was secretary of the Nerang Shire Cricket Association and a selector for the Southport and District Tennis Association. He was also involved with the local RSSAILA and the Burleigh Heads Bowling Club.

George died at the age of 62 on 26 May 1960 and he was buried at Balmoral Cemetery in Section 8, Plot 633. He was survived by his wife, Irene, their son Stanley, and one grandson, as well as two brothers and two sisters.

## New home for “Albert” the Aleppo pine

FOBC's very own Lone Pine tree has been relocated to Balmoral Cemetery.

Fondly nicknamed Albert, the Aleppo pine or *Pinus Halepensis* is descended from the original Lone Pine of Gallipoli. This symbolic tree was a gift to the local community from Legacy. It will serve as a reminder of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to ensure our freedom, and all those men and women who gallantly served our nation in conflicts and peace keeping missions around the globe.



Ernie Adsett, President, Morningside Services Club, Betty Sinden, Secretary, FOBC Inc, Kelvin Johnston, President, FOBC (standing behind Betty), TK Harris, Morningside Services Club with a newly replanted Aleppo pine tree.

“Albert” was just a tiny sapling when it was presented to FOBC in November 2003, so the small tree was carefully nurtured at home by FOBC President Kelvin Johnston.

Recently deemed large enough to be safely replanted in Balmoral Cemetery, FOBC and Morningside Services Club executive committee members held a simple ceremony for the replanting on 8 October 2005.

In order to give “Albert” the best chance of good health, the Brisbane City Council kindly erected a protective fence, with safety enhancements fitted and by hardworking FOBC member Des Johnston.

Visitors to Balmoral Cemetery might happen upon FOBC President Kelvin Johnston, who seems to have discovered a previously unknown green thumb and can be observed fertilising, weeding and watering “Albert” on a regular basis. Word has it that he speaks to the tree as well but let’s hope that’s just a rumour!

## Letters to the Editor



Dear FOBC,

I am searching for a World War I Honour Board which listed members of the Queensland Manx Society. The Society was formed in Brisbane in 1914 and still exists today with regular meetings held at the Queensland Irish Association rooms in Tara House.

In the early years the society met first in the Temperance Hall, then at the Overseas Club, then the BAFS hall. Their Honour Board would be proudly displayed on the wall in the meeting room and was moved from one place to another over the years 1914 to 1930.

I expect that the Board listed 15 to 20 names but it is possible that names were later added for World War II.

If anyone has any information about this Honour Board or its present location, could you please contact me at e-mail [mabear@brisnet.org.au](mailto:mabear@brisnet.org.au) or phone me on 07 5496 8854.

Thank you

Helene McCarthy

## Anzac Day online

The internet has become a fantastic medium for undertaking research.

Here are some of our favourite sites that have an Anzac theme - perfect for undertaking research on ancestors who served in various conflicts:

**[www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)**: Australian War Memorial website.

**[www.australiansatwar.com.au](http://www.australiansatwar.com.au)**: Dedicated to those Australians who served their nation over the past 100 years. You can re-live some of the greatest events in our history, as seen through the eyes of the men and women who were there.

**[www.users.skynet.be/Gallipoli](http://www.users.skynet.be/Gallipoli)**: everything you need to know about Gallipoli.

**[www.dva.gov.au/help/digger.htm](http://www.dva.gov.au/help/digger.htm)**: "How to find a Digger", from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

**[www.aif.adfa.edu.au:8080/index.html](http://www.aif.adfa.edu.au:8080/index.html)**: An AIF project that has developed a database that records information on the more than 330,000 men and women who embarked from Australia for service overseas in the (First) Australian Imperial Force, 1914-1918.

**[www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)**: Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

**[www.ausmil.com/users/anzacs/id289.htm](http://www.ausmil.com/users/anzacs/id289.htm)**: Anzac research site.

## Scouting around Balmoral Cemetery

After being contacted by Echidna, the local scout master for Morningside Scouts, FOBC have forged a strong link with the young people of the area.

We were approached by the local scouts to see if they could assist us with clean up activities at Balmoral Cemetery. We had such a project—in fact we had two. February 2006.

You may have noticed the bark chip area on top of the cemetery, the remnants of the severe storm of January 2005, which is currently being spread evenly and is much more pleasing to the eye than before.

The scouts bushcraft skills came to the fore with the lads assisting in trimming pine saplings that are prevalent in the cemetery and have the potential to damage the graves.

Their community service is rewarded by the scout movement with a new patch for their shoulder. FOBC has forwarded a certificate of appreciation to the Morningside Scouts for their hard work and valuable assistance in improving

Echidna assures us that they are rearing to go again and we will be pleased to welcome the scouts again in the near future.



They went with songs to the battle,  
they were young,

Straight of limb, true of eye,  
steady and aglow.

They were staunch to the end  
against odds uncounted,

They fell with their faces to the foe.

- *Laurence Binyon*

