



Who We Are

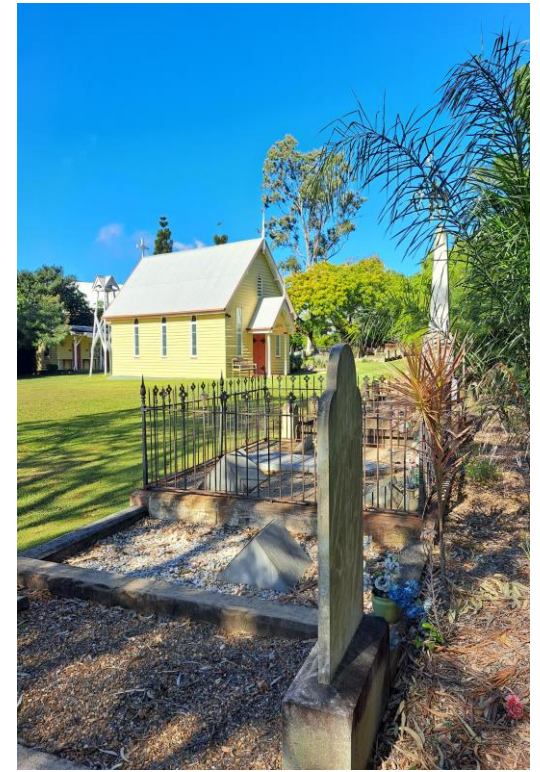
About Us

Tingalpa pioneers built their “bush cathedral” in 1868. It was known by this name as the area was sparsely populated. It was also referred to as ‘God’s Acre’. Funds for the building of the church were raised locally and overseas. A substantial amount came from the parishioners of the church at Bisham, a town about 40 kilometres west of London in the UK. Some of those same Bisham parishioners made the journey to Queensland and established themselves at Tingalpa.

In 1885 the hand of God intervened in a spectacular way. A cyclone or severe storm completely demolished the church. The present, smaller, chapel was built from materials recovered from the wreckage.

The Friends of Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group Inc. was formed in 2002. They set about restoring the derelict little chapel on the centrally located one-acre block to care for the pioneers’ graves and history.

Today we care for over 300 burials and have over 150 members with the same drive to preserve the local history and its people that made it along with the beautiful Gothic building. 6/ -2023



Gothic style property- Architect R. G. Suter

The Pioneers and their stories

Within the grounds are many graves and many of the interred created the beginnings of Brisbane.

- **Porter**- with their 659 acres in the area of sugar plantation named the farm ‘Mooraree’, now the suburb Murarrie.
- **Duckett White**- 200 acres at Tingalpa on the shores of Waterloo Bay. Built Lota House.
- **Weedon**- Built Cannon Hill house. First burial was a Weedon and the family contributed to the building of Christ Church.

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TINGALPA PIONEERS CHAPEL AND CEMETERY

The Friends Heritage Group

1341 Wynnum Rd, Tingalpa.

www.pctingalpa.com.au



The Adopt-A- Grave program saving history and giving respect to all.

You can make a difference

Adopt a grave program

Adopt a Grave is a voluntary program that provides the community with an opportunity to tend an historic grave and pay their respects in a symbolically creative way. The purpose of this initiative is to honour those who have died, improve the look of the cemetery, help preserve our local history, learn more about the Tingalpa community's past history, and help ensure that our dead are respected and not forgotten.

The church and burial ground were consecrated by Bishop Tufnell on 27 October 1868.

Local areas developed

The Arnolds -250 acres, 'Wyvernleigh'. Later divided into residential blocks and sold as Manly Beach Estate in 1882.

Robinson- 120 acre farm 'Rosehill' on Wondall Rd, Tingalpa where Robinson Park is today. Alfred was a joiner and made the pews in 1868.

Gode- arrived from London on 'SS Montmorency'. Settled at Tingalpa 1862. Foundation members of the 'Christ Church'. The Gode family donated the land on which Christ Church was built in 1868. The boat later sailed to Napier, NZ, and sank.

Stanton- Emmanuel had 17 children. Minnippi Parklands and Meadowlands were once part of their 'Holmwood Dairy'. He was on 3 councils and started the committee to build Victoria Bridge in the CBD in 1893.



Mrs Elizabeth Coxen- first woman to work in a museum in QLD.

Pioneers shaping Brisbane of today

Coxen- Charles and Elizabeth. Mr. Coxen was the Founder of the Queensland Museum in 1862. The Museum was housed in Brisbane's convict-built Windmill on Wickham Terrace.

Father of Music

Richard Thomas Jefferies was one of the founders, and the first conductor, of Brisbane Musical Union which was predecessor of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and the Queensland State and Municipal Choir.

His daughters, Arena, Vada and Mary, and son, Felix, were in the orchestra. Richard's involvement as a conductor earned him the title of the 'Father of Music'.