

God's Acre Remembrance Day

Archerfield Airport
Sunday 25th June 2017 from 10:00am

Welcome to our Remembrance Day for 2017 and thank you for coming along and showing your support for the protection of this historic cemetery.

God's Acre is believed to be Brisbane's oldest surviving cemetery. It commenced on 26th October 1859 when Thomas and Mary Grenier buried their 16 year old son Volney on the family property in what was then New South Wales. Just over 6 weeks later Governor Bowen arrived in Brisbane and read the Proclamation declaring Queensland a separate State.

The Grenier family farmed the land that is now Archerfield Airport and grew oats, maize and potatoes on the rich, black alluvial soil. They also bred horses and the Grenier children were fine horse riders.

Thomas Grenier, the father, was buried in God's Acre on 7th October 1877. In his will Thomas left the land that is now God's Acre Cemetery as a district cemetery and it became known as the Coopers Plains Cemetery. It is believed that there are approx. 240 persons buried in God's Acre representing 83 different pioneering families. The cemetery was closed in 1931.

Remembrance Day Program

10am – Morning tea and inspect graves and displays

10:30am – Conducted tour of the cemetery for those interested

11 am – 3 official talks – MC is Wayne Pitt, President, Friends of God's Acre Inc.

- Mrs. Sorelle Barke, descendent of Thomas and Mary Grenier, will talk about her aunt Olive Grenier who was the last burial in God's Acre Cemetery
- Mr. Robin Barke, Vice President Friends of God's Acre Inc., will speak on the life and death of Ludwig Leichhardt one of Australia's early explorers, who was known to the Grenier family
- Dr. Jon Prangnell, Head of Archaeology at the University of Queensland, will give a talk titled 'Digging up early Brisbane'

11:40am – sausage sizzle and drinks available

Please renew your membership of Friends of God's Acre Inc. or join our association today. Membership is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. This allows us to pay our public liability insurance, renew our History Queensland membership and do some maintenance of the graves