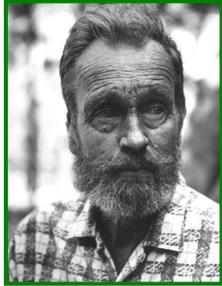


Ian Fairweather Cottage



In 1953 the artist Ian Fairweather returned to Bribie Island and built a Malay-style grass hut in the bush, lit only by hurricane lamps.

*Ian Fairweather Bribie Island 1966
Courtesy NLA obj-140409475*

By the 1960s his creative genius was recognised around the world and he produced some of the most significant works of his idiosyncratic career: *Gethsemane, Kite Flying, Epiphany, Turtle and Temple Gong* and *House by the Sea*.

By the late 1960s the Council had become increasingly concerned about his health and living conditions and Ian agreed to pay for the construction of a new fibro cottage next to his grass hut at Bongaree.

On 20th May 1974 Ian Fairweather died of a heart attack and later his ashes were scattered on Bribie Island.

A stone memorial marks the site of his hut in Ian Fairweather Park on the corner of First Avenue and Hunter Street, Bongaree.

Ian's English relatives arranged for the removal of the cottage to Coungeau House as Toc H was an organisation which Ian greatly respected.

The cottage was placed at the back of the property and is now the home of the caretakers.



Bribie Island Queensland, Australia

Bribie is only 20 minutes from the turnoff from the Bruce Highway. Bribie is central to all the tourist attractions in the Moreton Bay and Sunshine Coast areas.



Moreton Bay Map, Queensland Tourism
Queensland, Australia



Toc H Coungeau House

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www.tochnorthernregion.org

Coungeau House on Bribie Island



A Toc H Queensland Project

Seaside Holiday Home

36 Banya Street, Bongaree, Bribie Island

available for use by
disadvantaged families
and not-for-profit organisations



'Service is the rent we pay
for our room on earth'

Coungeau House

The Toc H organisation was formed out of the horrors of World War 1 and takes its name from the signaller's call for *Talbot House*, the Rest & Recreation house opened for soldiers in 1915 at Poperinghe, Flanders. In the 1920s Toc H was reformed to touch the lives of people in need world-wide.



Naoum and Emily Coungeau built their Bribie retirement home in 1916. The couple ran a successful restaurant for 30 years in Queen Street, Brisbane and their commercial success allowed them to become significant patrons of the arts and contributors to charity.

Emily at the age of 50 became a celebrated poet and lyricist, writing the words for *Auster*, the first Australian opera ever performed by a professional theatre company.

Naoum and Emily, in 1936, left their home on Bribie Island to the Church of England as a rest home for Clergy. Coungeau House was sold by the Church to Toc H in 1967.

After extensive fund-raising by the Bribie and Brisbane Toc H communities, renovations were finished in 1974 and the house (with attached dormitory) was opened to provide holiday accommodation for people with disabilities and people in need. The spacious Hall built under the house has been a meeting place for many organisations on Bribie Island as well as a venue for concerts and other community gatherings.

Facilities in the Hall

The Hall under the house is large and has a stainless-steel galley style kitchen with two electric ovens with gas cook-tops, microwave oven refrigerator, and electric Zipboiler system. Two BBQs are also available for use.

The kitchen has crockery, cutlery, electric frying pans, toasters, saucepans and miscellaneous kitchen equipment for catering purposes.

The Hall is set up with a stage at one end and has seating and tables for 100 people.



Who is Toc H

Toc H is a not-for-profit volunteer organisation founded upon Christian values and dedicated to building better communities and friendships through practical service.

Facilities in the House

Coungeau House is situated in a quiet street in Bongaree.

Coungeau house is a 'Queenslander' style historic home with French doors at the entry and in the three bedrooms which open onto the verandah. The verandah has out-door dining tables with chairs and comfortable sling back chairs to relax in.

The house can accommodate at least twelve people as the three bedrooms and verandah sleepout have a combination of single beds and double bunk beds. There are two bathrooms, the inside bathroom has a shower, basin and toilet and the verandah bathroom is a wet-room and includes a basin and toilet.



The dining room and kitchen each have six seater dining tables and there are lounge chairs in both dining and living rooms.

The kitchen has two refrigerators, an oven with cooktop, microwave oven, electric frying pans, toasters, crockery, cutlery and a variety of miscellaneous equipment for meals to be prepared in the house.

A separate, security screened, dormitory with six double bunks and one single bed, is situated behind the house and has separate male and female toilets and showers.

The house is situated on a large block with spacious grounds.