



Bulletin

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Newsletter of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland, No.714 November 2007

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Patron: Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor of Queensland
President: Denver Beanland



Brisbane River 1893 flood looking from North Quay to South Brisbane
RHSQ collection PA 3 no 14

President's report October

Since the last *Bulletin* where I raised this issue, the Prime Minister has announced that the Commonwealth Government will be pressing ahead to have history introduced as a separate subject in Years 9 and 10 in Australia's secondary schools from 2009. The Society welcomes this clear decision from the federal government and now looks for a positive response from the Queensland Government. The teaching of history as a separate subject is essential if we are to understand our nation's economic, political, social, cultural and religious past, and build for the future. It also enables us to understand the changes that are occurring in the wider world.

'Adopt a rare book project', the preservation of our old and rare books, has received expressions of interest from many members and friends of the Society. We welcome this attention and support in such an important project. Anyone interested who did

not receive a brochure with the last *Bulletin* should contact the Society and a brochure will be sent.

Also, members and friends of the Society are encouraged to continue to make valuable donations to the Society's Welsby Library, which has grown considerably over recent times. It is gratifying to see these valuable contributions.

The Society's Council appointed Professor John Pearn to fill the vacancy on Council. Professor Pearn was previously a member of Council.

On 28 September members and friends of the Society gave hearty recognition to Bill Kitson for his contribution to the recording and promotion of history in Queensland. We all wished Bill a great retirement but noted that he would be back at his loved Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying on Wednesdays.

The Society continues to attract a stimulating line-up of guest speakers for our monthly lectures on Wednesday lunch times and Thursday evenings.

Members and friends are most welcome: topics range over Queensland's diverse history.

Denver Beanland
President

Country News

(Collected by Ruth Kerr from personal Queensland contacts, Affiliated Societies and Newspapers)

Bellthorpe - The Centenary Fair was organised for 5 September to celebrate the centenary of the proclamation of land being open for selection at Bellthorpe. Displays of photographs and other displays marked the event. A booklet, *Bellthorpe - 100 Years of People*, was compiled for the occasion. Past pupils of the Bellthorpe school which was approved in 1934 also gathered. (*The Range News* {Maleny} 13 September 2007 p.16)

Gayndah - The historical society has gained the records of the now defunct Reid's Creek Hall Committee. The society also holds records relating to Rawbelle Shire, jockey club records and *Queensland Government Gazettes*. The society has a temperature controlled store room for the records. (*Central and North Burnett Times* 13 September 2007 p.5 including photo of RHSQ and Gayndah Society members, Cynthia Bertlesen with some of the records)

Hodgkinson Goldfield - Tyrconnell Historic Goldmine - Ms Cate Harley and Mr Andrew Bell have received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency under the Living Buildings and Places funding program to re-roof one of the mine buildings. (*Tablelands Advertiser* 19 September 2007 p.7)

Irvinebank - The School of Arts and Progress Association has received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency under the Living Buildings and Places funding program. It is for replacement of the front steps and restumping sections of *Loudoun House* (constructed by John Moffat in 1884), and providing disabled access to it. (*Tablelands Advertiser* 19 September 2007 p.7)

Maleny - Mary Cairncross Reserve has been developed by Maleny Rotary Club (formed in 1959) over many years. Members worked on clearing dead trees, draining bogs, establishing walking tracks and a picnic area, identifying and plate naming trees and mowing grass. (*Range News* {Maleny} 13 September 2007 p.13)

Nebo - The Nebo Shire Council has erected silhouettes of two Brahman bulls cut out of flat steel. The adjacent signs outline the history of the area. The first station, *Fort Cooper*, was taken up by William Landsborough in 1856. The name, Nebo, was given to the town in 1923. Cattle became the chief industry until coal mines were opened at nearby Coppabella in

1998. (*North Queensland Register* 13 September 2007 p.11 including photo)

Rockhampton - The Forde Plaque, commemorating Francis (Frank) Michael Forde, Australian Labor Prime Minister from 6 to 13 July 1945, was unveiled by the Acting Mayor of Rockhampton, Cr Jim Webber, in Forde Park in August. There were speeches by Cr Webber, President of the Rockhampton and District Historical Society Mr John Fletcher, and Member for Capricornia Ms Kirsten Livermore MP. The Historical Society provided the plaque and the Council installed it. The function concluded with morning tea at the Rocky Gardens Motor Inn. (Rockhampton and District Historical Society Inc *Newsletter* August 2007 p.1 including photo of past presidents, Dr Lorna McDonald OAM and Mr Hugh Armstrong)

Winton - The Diamantina Heritage Truck and Machinery Museum at Winton was opened during the festivities of the 32nd Outback Festival from 26 to 30 September 2007. (*North Queensland Register* 13 September 2007 p.11)

Suburban Heritage

Tingalpa - The Friends of Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group Inc held their fifth annual dinner on 24 August 2007 at the *Shangri La* Gardens Reception Lounge at Wynnum West. Sixty-five people attended. The group is well supported by the local elected representatives in local state and federal government. The evening was chaired by the local State member, Mr Chris Bombolas MP, Member for Chatsworth. Every person introduced themselves at the beginning of the dinner.

Research report

It has been a very quiet month and for the first time in years there was a week when no enquires for material in our collection were received. Other enquiries for the month were for small searches where we found snippets of material on all of the following: Wenley House, Market Street, Brisbane; Eastern Rugby Club (Langlands Park), Thomas William Davis; a photo of Yungaburra Post Office and the 1954 Royal Tour.

During the month, however, Dr Kay Cohen researched and supplied information to the Conrad Hotel on the uses of rooms in the history of the former Land Administration/Executive Building.

Lyndsay Smith has started digitising the photographs in the hundred or so Photo Albums held by the Society. He has also photographed some of the books to be conserved in the **Adopt a Book** program

which has proved to be very popular among the Society's members and we appreciate and give thanks to all those who have so far made a contribution. Beth Johnson has been working on compiling an Index to the Society's *Bulletins* while Jean Stewart and Ian Hadwen have been preparing books for the next Book Auction to be held in 2008.

Jean Stewart
Hon Researcher

Library report

Manfred Cross has continued to donate material for inclusion in our collection. Items catalogued this month include information on the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR); *Brisbane Kindergarten Teachers' College: Diamond jubilee souvenir: 60 years 1911-1971*; *Points north: Points of general interest between Cairns and Torres Strait*; *Amity: North Stradbroke Island*; *From Jimba to Dried Beef Creek: Leichhardt's travels in the Chinchilla district 1844-1848*; *Jandowae town and district history 1847-1988*; *Chinchilla centenary 1878 to 1978: Souvenir booklet*; *Port Douglas: A study of its historic buildings and townscape*; *Lady Gowrie Child Centre: A record of some of the events spanning those years 1940-1990: 'Year by year across five decades'*; *Centenary souvenir booklet of Brisbane Central State School 1874-1975*; *A century of Methodism: The Gap Methodist Church 1872-1972*; *Charleville centenary celebrations, November 1947: Souvenir booklet*; *St James Anglican Church Pratten: Centenary booklet 1881-1981*; *A short history of Miriam Vale Shire: The birthplace of Queensland: From the journals of Arthur Jeffery*; *Seven days to remember*; *The first Labor Government in the world: Queensland 1-7 December 1899*; *Frontier town: Charleville 1865-1901*; *Synchrone Brisbane 1903 – 1991: The story of the Jackson family of electrical clock makers*; *Wilston State School diamond jubilee: 1920-1980*; *Samford State School 125th anniversary: 1872-1997*; *City Tabernacle Baptist Church Brisbane Queensland centenary: 125th church anniversary and centenary of the opening of the Tabernacle*.

Other donated items include the Brisbane telephone directory of 1940 and the Queensland Railway timetable for 1931. Peter Henderson donated the presidential address by JB Henderson to the Royal Society of Queensland in 1931 and G Henderson's reminiscences on railway construction (Queensland from 1885). Pam Turner donated her book *Following a dream*.

The Society recently received a review copy of a very interesting book, *The third metropolis*:

Imagining Brisbane through art and literature 1940-1970. A review of this book will be published in the next Bulletin. A 2005 documentary video by Channel 9 entitled *The Queensland way* has been added to the collection.

Judy Rechner
Hon Librarian

CALENDAR

November 2007

Wednesday 14 November 12.30 pm **Sarah Ann Butler, a little lady of Toowong**, Jean Stewart

Thursday 15 November 6.00 pm **The 1967 Referendum** Manfred Cross

Friday 16 November **Bulletin deadline**

December 2007

Monday 10 December 5.00 pm **Proclamation Day at Newstead House**

There are no talks or lectures at RHSQ in December

Program report

The down side of taking five weeks holiday is that you miss out on too many historical society program events.

A great social function in honour of Bill Kitson, a very successful bus trip to *Cressbrook* and two high quality papers on elements of the history of the Chinese in Queensland were my losses. My thanks to Jean, Allan and Manfred for the organisation of these events.

I arrived home in time to hear Willy Stephens' talk on *Cumbooquepa*. Presentations on topics of Queensland built heritage and pioneering Queensland families appear to attract the largest audiences, and this paper continued that trend.


In November, we have two RHSQ council members presenting papers. On Wednesday lunchtime 14 November, Jean Stewart will tell us about *Sarah Ann Butler, a little lady of Toowong*. The following evening, Thursday 15, Manfred will talk on the 1967 referendum. It is forty years (only) since members of the indigenous population were given the right to vote.

I have had further offers of papers for 2008, with once again a wide variety of topics. I hope to process these in the next four weeks and provide a draft timetable of 2008 lectures in the December *Bulletin*.

Thank you all for your continued (and increasing) support of our lecture program.

Ian Hadwen

HISTORY
AWARD



NOMINATIONS
CALLED FOR

JOHN DOUGLAS KERR MEDAL OF
DISTINCTION

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland and the Professional Historians Association (Qld) invite nominations from individuals and organisations for the award for excellence in historical writing and research in any one or more fields of Queensland history.

Nominations close on 31 March 2008.
Presentation of the medal will take place on 6 June 2008.

Nomination kits will be available from January 2008. For further information contact the Royal Historical Society of Queensland, PO Box 12057, Brisbane George Street, Qld 4003, Telephone 3221 4198, Facsimile 3221 4698, e-mail info@queenslandhistory.org.au.

Queensland State Archives

The State Archives, 435 Compton Road Runcorn, are open Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm and on the second Saturday of each month from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm.

National Archives of Australia

The opening hours for The National Archives of Australia at 16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill are now every Wednesday to Friday from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm and on the third Saturday of each month from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm. Records must be pre-ordered. Phone 3249 4226

Events and functions of interest

A long way from Rome: Italians in Queensland, on Saturday 17 November and Wednesday 21 November at National Archives of Australia, 16 Corporate Drive Cannon Hill from 9.00 am to 12 noon, bookings on 3249 4226

Government Gazettes, Queensland State Archives lecture room 2 at 435 Compton Road Runcorn from 10.00 am on Wednesday 24 October, bookings on 3131 7777

For most conspicuous bravery: Three Victoria Crosses at the Queensland Museum, by Dr Brian Crozier, Senior Curator, Cultures and Histories on Wednesday 7 November 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm at Queensland Museum south Bank, free entry

Morning tea with the State Archivist, lecture room 1 at 435 Compton Road Runcorn from 10.00 am on Wednesday 14 November, bookings on 3131 7777

Morning tea with the Brisbane Director on Saturday 15 December and Wednesday 19 December at National Archives of Australia, 16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill from 9.00 am to 10.00 am, bookings on 3249 4226

Proclamation Day Be part of the annual celebration of the proclamation of Queensland as a separate state at Newstead House on Monday 10 December from 5.00 pm. further details available on 3216 1846 and 3221 4198



The National Trust of Queensland & The Brisbane Institute invites you to hear

DR JONATHAN FOYLE

(Chief Executive, World Monuments Fund in Britain)

Inside Henry VIII's Bedroom: Experiencing Hampton Court Palace in the Sixteenth Century

Wednesday 14 November 2007, 6.00 pm

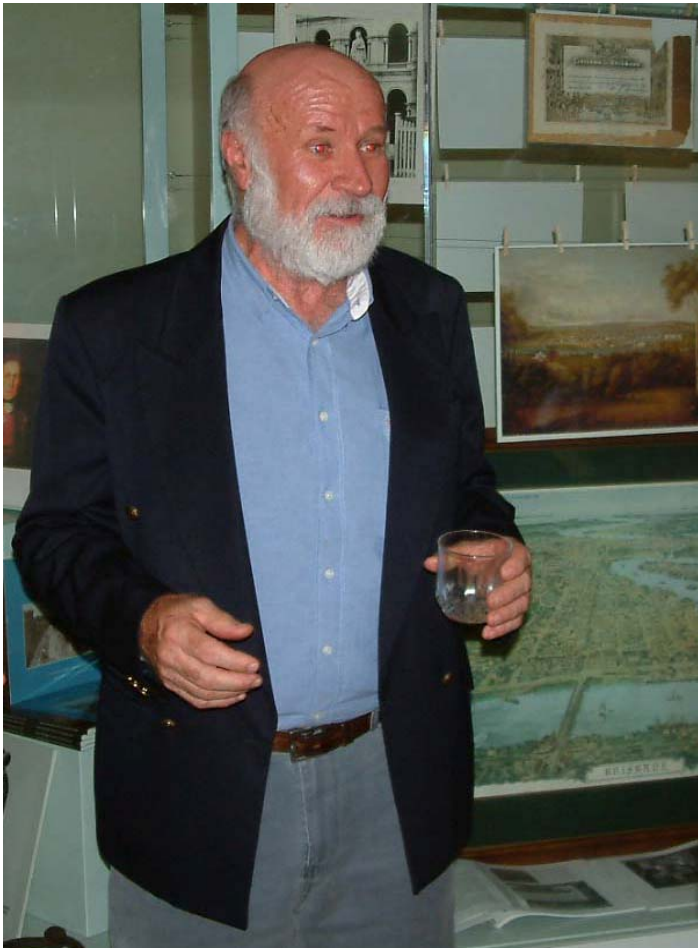
The Grand Hall, Masonic Memorial Centre

311 Ann Street, Brisbane

Bookings Essential: RSVP 13 November

ph: 3220 2198 or rsvp@brisinst.org.au

Cost: \$22 general admission; \$11 full-time student
\$15 for National Trust members, BI members & Sponsors



Bill Kitson recounting one of his many experiences, 28 September 2007 (photo RHSQ)



Chris McConnell answers a question about Cressbrook 7 October 2007 (photo Jeff O'Mara)

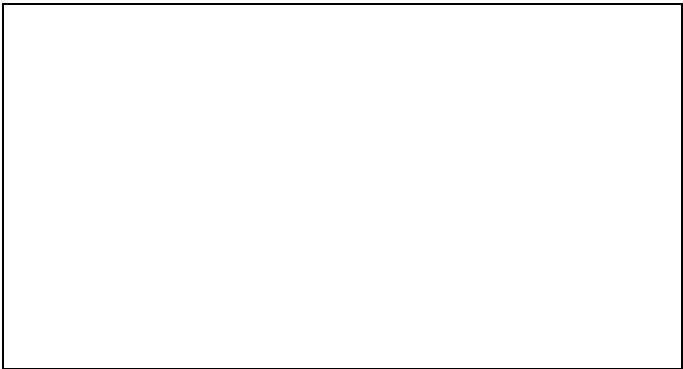


After lunch on Cressbrook 7 October 2007
(photo Jeff O'Mara)

Royal Historical Society of Qld
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**SURFACE
 MAIL**

POSTAGE
 PAID
 AUSTRALIA



Important Functions and Events	
CALENDAR	
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Thursday 15 November	6.00 pm The 1967 Referendum Manfred Cross
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RHSQ Infobox

The Society is represented on the National Trust of Queensland and the Board of Trustees of Newstead House
 The Society acknowledges the financial assistance of the Queensland State Government, and rate remission from the Brisbane City Council

Contact details:

Location:	Historical Museum and Welsby Library at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane
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Open:	Tuesday to Friday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm, Closed Saturday Sunday Monday as well as Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Easter

Bulletin articles only:

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Subscriptions (with GST):

Ordinary Member	\$50.00
Partner of Member	\$15.00
Junior Member (18)	\$10.00
Full-time Student (25)	\$25.00
Affiliated Society	\$40.00
Libraries Subscription	\$55.00
Corporate/Institutions	\$75.00
Life membership – purchased after 15 years	\$1,000.00