



COMMISSARIAT STORE 1829

RHSQ

Royal Historical Society of Queensland

Bulletin

ISSN No. 0035 8916

Newsletter of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland, No.715 December 2007

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



Telegraphists at Christmas dinner, Mt Surprise Telegraph Station circa 1910
(from RHSQ Australia Post collection P 20650)

President's report December

I am pleased to report the appointment of Dr Margaret Kowald as the new editor for the *Journal*. Margaret will be known to many of you for her long involvement in the history community and the author of several publications, articles and papers. A special thanks must go to Val Donovan our outgoing editor. Val has indicated that she will continue to assist Margaret in her new role. As the workload for the editor of the *Journal* has increased, the Society is calling for expressions of interest for the positions of assistant editors. Those interested should submit their details before 15 January 2008.

Also, as part of revamping the *Journal*, members and friends of the society are asked to submit a redesigned cover. A redesigned cover should contain the Society's logo. One suggestion already received is that we should move to a glossy cover. Suggestions and designs are asked to be submitted prior to 15 January 2008.

To promote and lift the profile of history, your Society has decided to have a designated '**History Week**' commencing next year. History Week will be celebrated from 31 May to 6 June 2008. We welcome and look forward to both our affiliated and non-affiliated Societies around Queensland joining with us in this initiative. Also, we trust that local and regional councils will join with us in the event. The huge

number of Societies all doing their own local activities in their own districts, as well as this peak body having its major activity on this week, should attract the attention of the community to the significance of history. Your Society will conclude History Week with the Queensland Day dinner and the awarding of the John Douglas Kerr Medal of Distinction on Friday night, 6 June. We look forward to the participation of all history societies in what we trust will be an annual event. It would be appreciated if history Societies could advise us in due course of their proposals for this week, so that we may be able to include details in our overall state-wide coverage.

Following a meeting which I recently had with the Queensland State Archives about Queensland's 2009 sesquicentenary celebrations, your Society's Council has resolved to communicate with the state government's Q150 Committee suggesting that they consider on 10 December 2009 a re-enactment of Governor Bowen's arrival in the colony. Separation Day as it was known was a major event in the colonial period. We are suggesting that a committee be formed that involves all the major history and affiliated groups such as the National Trust, Brisbane Institute, Newstead House Trust and all appropriate state organisations such as the Queensland State Archives, State Library and the Queensland Museum as well as the Brisbane and Ipswich City Councils. As this Society is a volunteer organisation and the work involved in this undertaking to make it a success would be considerable, it has been decided to seek the assistance of the state in organising this activity.

This leads me to the next issue of projects in which the Society is involved. There are I am sure amongst our members and friends those who have both the time and the ability to assist the Society in its many activities. Just one of these is History Week. Should you be able to assist the Society in any of its activities with your time and your expertise we would be pleased to hear from you.

In conclusion, I want to take the opportunity of thanking everyone for their support for the Society during the year and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Denver Beanland
President

Country News

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

Bowen - Queensland's oldest northern town and port, Bowen, is now debating the long awaited major State industrial development area for the prospective Chalco aluminium refinery at Abbot Point. The site extends

south to Merinda, 10km from Bowen. (*Bowen Independent* 2 November 2007 p.2 including map)

Cloncurry - Friends of John Flynn Place Inc and Cloncurry Shire Council have received a \$5,500 Community Heritage Grant from the National Library of Australia and the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts. (*North Queensland Register* 8 November 2007 p.9)

Cooroy - A \$100,000 grant has been received by the Noosa Shire Council for the restoration of the Cooroy Lower Mill boiler through the AusIndustry Australian Tourism Development Grant Program of the Commonwealth government. Noosa Shire Council will inject \$202,000 into the project by May 2009. Funding enables refurbishment of the sawmill boiler along with the surrounding sawmill building to a useable space for static displays including interpretative panels, photos, artefacts and surrounding tree plantings. Additional interpretative panels are proposed throughout the site and the nearby Butter Factory. The project will also incorporate the Cooroy Heritage Walk highlighting aspects of Cooroy's cultural heritage. (*Cooroy Rag* 24 October 2007 pp.1,2 and 3 including two photos)

Gayndah is celebrating the centenary of the opening of the railway through the town. A commemorative plaque provided by Queensland Rail will be unveiled at the railway station. A tour was held as part of the celebrations on 1 December to the district's historic rail bridges. \$3,000 has been allocated from the RADF program to Jill Slack to prepare a historical booklet, *Next Stop Ga-ayn-dah!* It will include present and past rail employees. (*Central & North Burnett Times* 4 October 2007 p.6 including photo)

Glenmore near Rockhampton - The Rockhampton and District Historical Society had a paper presented on 3 November by Carrie Mackay (née Douglas) describing John Douglas's property at *Glenmore* in approximately 1862. Douglas had six pastoral properties in the Port Curtis District and one in the Clermont area. He was Premier of Queensland from 8 March 1877 to 21 January 1879. The letter has recently been donated to the Rockhampton Society. (Rockhampton and District Historical Society Inc *Newsletter* October 2007 p.1)

Gympie - Wide Bay Co-operative Dairy Association Pty Ltd's Board table has been preserved under the auspices of the Cooloola Shire Council. The dairy factory in Tozer Street, Gympie was the largest in the southern hemisphere. In 1943 production of 126.75 tons of butter by the Gympie factory of the Wide Bay Co-operative Dairy Association in early January was an Australian as well as a factory record. The previous Australian record, also created by the Gympie Wide Bay factory, was 124 tons in the week ended 18 February 1939. (*Gympie Times* 5 October 2007 p.3 including colour photo and 15 January 1993 p.6)

Mareeba - An auction sale of surplus museum collectables such as old bottles, saw blades, household items, insulators, typewriters, camping paraphernalia,

radios and many old records was held at the Heritage Centre on 13 October 2007 -. (*Tablelands Advertiser* 10 October 2007 p.17)

Wolvi near Gympie - Society member, Ian McConachie OAM, Chairman of the Macadamia Conservation Committee, has discovered a small tree, *Macadamia ternifolia*, in remnant rainforest on a property east of Gympie. The Big Scrub around Kin Kin had Macadamias throughout but around 99% have been lost to clearing for farms. The tree has never been found west of the Mary River but around 12 sites north to Goomborian are known. (*Gympie Times* 22 September 2007 p.7 including three photos)

Suburban heritage

Oxley - The Oxley Station Master's house and later rail crew building has been donated by Queensland Railways to Education Queensland and relocated to the Corinda State High School grounds. The house was moved to allow for the Corinda to Darra rail upgrade. (*Westside News* 7 November 2007 p.11)

Research report

This has been another quiet month as far as research queries are concerned. However there have been some interesting requests for information. These include enquiries about Dr Aubrey Pye and the Royal Brisbane Hospital; the whaler *Hope* and a murder on board near New South Wales and Norfolk Island in 1861; Bungaree an Aboriginal in Sydney in the 1790s; and the growth of the railway line north of Brisbane. In the last week new enquiries have come in about the Market Wharf at the end of Tank Street; the words of the Sunshine State song; family history material on Robert Catchpole and Noah Minchington; the site of the Oxley Police Academy; the Regent Theatre; and the life of Dr Richard Rendle. Discussion was held and advice was given to a member about the publication of the memories of Henry Plantagenet Somerset, a possible project of the Brisbane Valley Historical Society.

Work has commenced on preparing the Catalogue for the Book Auction to be held in 2008.

Members of the Research Team were pleased to attend the Volunteers Christmas luncheon recently and it was an opportunity to meet volunteers who come in to the Store on different days.

I would like to remind members that the library is open for research on Thursdays between 10 am and 4 pm or by appointment on other days when the Store is open. It is always worth checking the photographic and Archival holdings of the Library as most of these items cannot be found elsewhere. Photographs can be supplied very quickly and are reasonably priced,

either on hard copy or on a CD or transferred by e-mail.

Jean Stewart
Hon Researcher

Library report

The recently legislated Council amalgamations will have an impact on many of our district files in the Welsby Library. Using information downloaded from the government web pages on the local government changes, all the relevant District files have had a note added showing the shires that have been amalgamated as well as the name of the new council.

Jean Stewart has donated a number of very relevant works for inclusion in the Welsby Library: *Enjoying historic Ashgrove*; *Millaa Millaa: A pictorial record from 1910*; *Matthew Flinders: The discoverer of Coochie Mudlo Island*; *Seven Hills of Brisbane*; *The story of Pozieres*; *The Holland family: Lockerbie, Cape York*; *The OLR story: Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Parish Kenmore*; *The greatest of all cyclones: Bathurst Bay, 1899*; *Stories of the southside, vol. 1*.

Randolph Bedford's autobiography *Naught to thirty-three* published in 1944 has been added to the catalogue. A copy of SE Pearson's article from the *RHSQ Journal* volume 4 number 2 of December 1949 'In the Kalkadoon country: The habitat and habits of a Queensland Aboriginal tribe' is now held in PDF format on a CD.

Judy Rechner
Hon Librarian

CALENDAR

December 2007

Monday 10 December 5.00 pm Proclamation Day at Newstead House. Enjoy the quiet ambience of Newstead House while partaking of complimentary refreshments and watching historical vignettes. participate in community carol singing around the demi-grande piano. No bookings required.

There are no talks or lectures at RHSQ in December

January 2008

Tuesday 15 January Bulletin deadline

HISTORY
AWARDNOMINATIONS
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

Morning tea with the Brisbane Director, chat about the Archive's plans for 2008 on Saturday 15 December and Wednesday 19 December at National Archives of Australia, 16 Corporate Drive Cannon Hill from 9.00 am to 12 noon, bookings on 3249 4226

Beginning research at QSA, Queensland State Archives lecture room 2 at 435 Compton Road Runcorn from 10.00 am to 11.00 am on Thursday 22 January, bookings on 3131 7777

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

Holiday fun at the State Library this summer Spot the 60 copper Christmas beetles crawling over the State Library building; join Narelle Oliver to design and print bookplates 17 December to 19 December; join in the Summer Reading Club or Cartoon Animation and Manga workshops in January; create your own puppet at puppet making stations from 2 January to 26 January. For more information call 3842 9847 or go to www.slq.qld.gov.au/children.

Review of Queensland *Freedom of Information Act 1992*

A review of the Queensland *Freedom of Information Act 1992* is underway. terms of Reference are available on the website: www.foireview.qld.gov.au or call the FOI Review Office on 07 3222 2309 for a copy. The review panel will prepare a discussion paper to be released for public consultation in January 2008. The current review is of current processes, time and costs involved, and purposes and principles. The panel welcomes suggestions on other issues to be considered.

Q150 CD

The Queensland Family History Society has invited anyone who had a family members who resided within the boundaries of what became the state of Queensland to write a short story about them. Queensland Family History society will publish these stories on a CD titled *Queensland Founding Families: biographies of families who resided in Queensland before separation from New South Wales*.

The Publications Committee of QFHS requests that stories be limited to no more than three A4 pages (12 Point), inclusive of photographs and maps. Each story should be supported by conclusive evidence of residency such as a birth, marriage or death certificate, photographs of headstones or other genuine evidence. a signed *Permission to Publish* form, obtainable on request, should accompany each submission.

Stories are not restricted to direct lineage but can be about any person who qualifies and of course includes indigenous people.

Submissions should be sent as e-mail attachments to presep@qfhs.org.au or posted to QFHS Publications Committee, PO Box 1109, BRIGHTON Qld. 4017 and should be received before 31 December 2008.

For further information contact Bob Annand on (07) 3395 2530 or at r.annand@bigpond.net.au.

OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR SOCIETY

Assistant Treasurer



The Treasurer of a busy organisation such as RHSQ has a large and complex task preparing the annual budget, balancing the books, preparing reports and managing the BAS. Our Treasurer would like some assistance in maintaining monthly records and other day-to-day activities.

- Do you have experience with Quicken, QuickBooks or MYOB?
- Can you spare perhaps four hours once each fortnight?
- Would you like to be a Volunteer in this dynamic organisation?

If you can answer ‘Yes’ to these questions we would like to talk to you.

Editor, Bulletin

Bulletin articles only:		
ane	Editor	PUT YOUR NAME IN HERE
	E-mail:	info@queenslandhistory.org.au
	Phone:	07 3221 4198
	Fax:	07 3221 4698.
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The Editor of RHSQ’s *Bulletin* simply builds each edition from material provided by members of the Society. Some licence is allowed in the selection of the cover photograph and in selecting additions, relevant items or ‘fillers’.

If you:

- thrive on deadlines; 11 each year;
- know how to make MS Word behave;
- have a sense of visual balance;
- can spare two days each month and
- are comfortable reminding people of deadlines

then this is a job for you.

Full training will be provided for all the above positions. Expressions of interest from members and non-members should be directed to the President, Mr Denver Beanland, PO Box 12057, Brisbane George Street 4003. Expressions of interest close on Tuesday 15 January. Further details can be obtained from either the President or from Allan Bell on 3221 4198 or at info@queenslandhistory.org.au.

Assistant Editors, RHSQ Journal



The prestigious *RHSQ Journal* now includes both refereed and non-refereed articles. We are seeking Assistants to help the Editor in the collection, compilation and production of our quarterly *Journal*.

If you have a computer running Microsoft Word and are able to spend a few hours each week working from home, then we would like to hear from you.

The society has a clear editorial policy and publication guidelines.

Specific projects



Throughout the course of the year the Society has need of assistance in managing or completing specific individual projects. Your involvement could be as little as a few hours or perhaps short periods over a number of weeks. If your would like to become more involved in your Society and let us know, we will endeavour to match your skills with our needs.

Royal Historical Society of Qld
 PO Box 12057
 Brisbane George Street
 Qld 4003
 RHSQ Journal: PP424022/00020
 RHSQ Bulletin: PP424022/00019

**SURFACE
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 AUSTRALIA



Important Functions and Events
CALENDAR
December 2007
Monday 10 December 5.00 pm Proclamation Day at Newstead House , historical vignettes, Proclamation Day quiz, carol singing and complimentary refreshments
There are no talks or lectures at RHSQ in December
January 2008
Tuesday 15 January Bulletin deadline

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
Phone:	07 3221 4198
Fax:	07 3221 4698
E-mail:	info@queenslandhistory.org.au
Website:	www.queenslandhistory.org.au
ABN:	34 217 251 028
Postal:	The Royal Historical Society of Queensland, PO Box 12057, Brisbane George Street, 4003
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:

Editor	Allan Bell
E-mail:	info@queenslandhistory.org.au
Phone:	07 3221 4198
Fax:	07 3221 4698.
Postal:	RHSQ, PO Box 12057, Brisbane George Street, 4003

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