

RHSQ

Royal Historical Society of Queensland

THE RHSQ

Bulletin

APRIL 2010 No. 740

The newsletter of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland
Patron: Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AO, Governor of Queensland
President: Carolyn Nolan
Website: www.queenslandhistory.org.au



Morning Tea at the Futures Workshop

The above photograph shows some of the participants having morning tea at the RHSQ Futures Workshop held at the Commissariat Store on Saturday 27 February. The purpose of the workshop was to produce a plan for the future of our Society.

Text and photo by Graeme Nicholson

RHSQ President's Report for April

Easter is nearly here, the year is getting on. The recent workshop was facilitated with great skill and energy by Ms Kathleen Singleton, owner of business consultancy, Eloquent, here in Brisbane. Those who took part in the workshop completed a survey beforehand, and this in itself has given us many ideas to work with. At the workshop just about every aspect of the Society was examined and now we have started to put the suggestions into practice, especially those that do not involve great expense. As we get more money and as further helpers come forward we will do

more. A further survey will be sent to all members before long and this is a chance for everyone to have a say in what we do. The Council does listen and I have found it very open to suggestions!

Queensland embraces many cultures and it will be good to be able to greet our Chinese-speaking visitors with a brochure translated into Chinese. This has been organised by Ray Poon and I hope it will lead to an even greater interest in the history of the Chinese in Queensland. Other members are making translations for us. I was delighted to hear from Grahame Jardine-Vidgen that he is now Chief of Clan Jardine.

Those who have heard Grahame's talk about the Jardine family's exploits, and particularly those in Cape York, will know of his fascinating Scottish family background. Congratulations from us all.

All the time people are beavering away in all the different areas of the Society and among them is Ian Simmonds who for years has been restoring our Queensland Government Gazettes. Many of these large, leather-bound volumes were falling to pieces and virtually unusable and he has transformed whole shelves of them, with a great deal of attention to making them look good as well. And now thanks to grant money obtained Roger Perry is working wonders on more of these colonial records. A reminder: the Welsby Library is open for reading and research every Thursday.

Members of the Museum Committee have also been looking closely at material suitable for exhibition and more items have found their way into The Commissariat Store. Further restoration to the framed art works by Graeme Nicholson saw *Merthyr* and other subjects on display at the Wednesday lecture. And thanks to Andrew Darbyshire and Hon. Librarian Judy Rechner a great deal more material is now available on our website. This of course includes the lecture program with some significant anniversaries being documented this year, such as The University of Queensland, and Fernberg.

RHSQ will celebrate its own centenary in 2013, and is fairly young compared to the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland that has just celebrated 125 years and I know some of you are members of both. I was welcomed to their special lecture evening by President Ken Granger and Secretary Keith Smith and found our two groups have much in common. All very constructive and I look forward to further liaison with them.

Enjoy the *Bulletin*!

Carolyn Nolan
President

Queensland History News

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

Calgoa Copper Mines in South Burnett Region – The identity of the lone grave at the Calgoa Copper Mines has been solved by the Turner family. The grave is of Catherine Holcroft born in Lancashire, England. She died on 25 December 1908 aged 88 years. She was the mother of Mary Ann Turner. A recent fire has burnt the area except for the grave. There appear to be no remains of the mines. (Woocoo Historical Society *News Bulletin*, Vol.24 No.1, March 2010, page 3)

Condamine – The Condamine Bell was invented by blacksmith, Samuel Williams Jones of Condamine, for a drover for his stock horse. It was made from a discarded pit-saw blade and hung outside the blacksmith's shop until his return. Bullockies saw it and requested similar bells. Samuel Williams Jones' name has been inscribed in the Honour Roll of Unsung Heroes of the Outback at the Stockman's Hall of Fame at Longreach. A large Condamine Bell was unveiled in a Condamine Park by Jones' grand daughter, Emily Sapsford, on 17 September 1977. That bell was made by Mr Hugh Tilly of Condamine. (Anglican Church *Focus* July 2009 p.6)

Cooktown & Port Douglas – A letter by a Cooktown priest, Rev Albert Cornelius Mosley of Christ Church, to his sister, Mary Ann (Polly), Jury in Ireland on 27 February 1883, has been chosen by judges including Director-General of National Archives of Australia, Professor Geoffrey Bolton, and Professor Geoffrey Blainey, as one of the '200 Letters of a Nation', part of Australia Post's celebration of its history. The letter was submitted by a person from Rockingham in Western Australia. Mosley wrote of Cooktown: 'Really it is a corking place and well deserves the name of Cook, if not after the discoverer, after the heat.' Their new home at Cooktown was 'surprisingly comfortable' – with four large rooms, a verandah on three sides, kitchen and servants' room, bath and storeroom and 'a very nice garden with many good fruit trees' (guava, custard apple, orange and lemon). Moseley said 'It is much more comfortable than the house at Port Douglas and my work much more pleasant as I have no long journeys to take. I have never complained to the Bishop of the extent of my late district and the unpleasantness, which I had to encounter, but when I took him through my district he saw for himself and said that he had no idea. He has written me several letters since, expressing his pleasure at my having accepted this Incumbency and saying that all the advantage that I now had, I had deservedly merited on account of my work in the Diocese.'

Moseley had completed building St Andrew's Church in Wharf Street, Port Douglas (demolished in 1980s for a resort) which the Bishop was 'most pleased with' when opening it on 27 August 1881. 'The church here (Cooktown) is not to be compared but I am having a few alterations which will add greatly to the Church both as far as appearance and comfort go. My services are well attended. The

Society is much better here than in Port Douglas and the people are most kind, as the Dr said the other day to Minna [his wife], they would make you drunk with kindness ... he hoped to visit the Old Country again ... 'but not in the winter nor during November fogs. That is one thing we do not get out here ... it is well termed Sunny Queensland.' (*Cooktown Local News* 23 December 2009 p.5 including photo of Moseley)

Dimbulah's CWA building was previously the maternity ward at the Mount Mulligan Hospital. It was moved into Dimbulah on 8 July 1959. Because of its association with Mount Mulligan the Dimbulah CWA prepared a display on the Mount Mulligan coal mine disaster in 1921 for the 50th year jubilee of the building in Dimbulah. The building has also been used as a church and for weddings. (*Tablelands Advertiser* 20 May 2009 p.4 including photo)

Gympie – The Rotunda, on the Council heritage list, has been vandalised and needs upgrading. Councillor Larry Friske suggested steel railings to replace wooden railings. The rotunda was built in 1920 as a memorial to local men who fought in World War I. (*Gympie Times* 21 May 2009 pp1 and 2 including two photos)

Gympie – The Gympie Gold Mining and Historical Society Museum has been collecting photographs and letters regarding the No.1 Scottish Gympie Gold Mine and its foundations of which they are doing an interpretative study. The society obtained funding for the purpose under the Commonwealth Government Jobs Fund. (*Gympie Times* 26 May 2009 p.9 including a historical and a modern photograph of the site.)

Manly – The Minister for Natural Resources, Hon Stephen Robertson MP, has called for suggestions for the geographical names for various places. The Friends of Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group Inc suggested that the waters between Darling and Norfolk Points be named Arnold Cove as a tribute to the Arnold family who bought *Wyvernleigh* a 250-acre estate in the Parish of Tingalpa in 1868 from the Leuthwaite estate. Joseph Leuthwaite had built *Tingalpa* house for Thomas Jones of *Barambah* north of present day Goomeri, and had married Mary Arnold in 1868. The Arnolds grew into a very extended family of the Manly – Tingalpa area and some are buried in the Christ Church cemetery. They subdivided some of their land for the Manly Beach Estate in 1882. There have been objections to the use of the name Rose Bay for the unnamed tidal cove between Darling and Norfolk Points and The Friends of Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group Inc

are campaigning to have it named Arnold Cove. The Friends can be contacted through email: jackiebutler@optusnet.com.au

The Minister's website is: http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/property/place_names.html A book is to be published on the history of the Arnold family – *Manly's Forgotten Founders – the Arnolds of Wyvernleigh*. (The Friends of Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group Inc *Newsletter* No.22, February 2010, pp.1 and 3)

Mungindi – Balonne Shire Council agreed to become the trustee of the One Ton Post survey peg, 5km west of Mungindi on the banks of Barwon River on 29th parallel. It is said to be the largest wooden survey peg in Australia. It was placed there by surveyor John Cameron in 1881. Funding arrangements were being made by the Mungindi Progress Association and the Shire Council with the Community Memorials Program and the state government. The Mungindi Historical Society pledged \$5,000, the Progress Association \$2,000 and the Queensland and New South Wales Surveyors' Boards \$2,500. (*Balonne Beacon* 21 May 2009 p.2 including colour photo)

Woolooga – A brief history of the Woolooga cattle saleyards has been published in the *Gympie Times*. The first sale yards were in the back of the Woolooga Hotel in 1917 and operated until 1925. The Queensland Livestock Company owned by Attie Sullivan, Dinny Gerard, Bill Bishop and Percy Bishop built new yards on the present site in 1949. There were a number of ownership changes thereafter and in 1973 BBC bought five acres for sale of steers. After the price slump in 1974 to 1978 they bought the whole yard from Elders. It was expanded to hold more than 2,000 head. BBC sold the yards in 1984. However it closed in the 1990s. The yards were re-opened in May 2009 when Dan Sullivan bought the yards. Long term auctioneers, Bill Bishop and Jim Connolly, attended the re-opening of the Woolooga Saleyards in May 2009. (*Gympie Times* 14 May 2009 on page 5 including a photo dated 1953, and 23 May 2009 p.18 including three photos)

New Queensland History Books

Caging Octopuses – a tale of the first decade of Condamine Cods Rugby by Annabelle Brayley – published in November 2009 with 350 people attending in Condamine. A description of the club and its achievements, led by Lee McNicholl,



A recent audit has found that several photographs in our collection are without identification. If you know any of these people please contact us.

WHO REMEMBERS COLOURED SLIDES?

Can you remember 35mm colour slides? Colour slide photography was very popular from the 1950s to the 1980s, but today many people have collections of slides they don't know what to do with. A website is being created at The University of Queensland which will feature colour slides of Queensland places.

HOW DO YOU GET IMAGES ONTO THE WEBSITE?

Staff at the University can provide you with pre-paid registered mail envelopes. You can then send suitable slides to be scanned at high resolution.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Julia Fielding, Communications Officer
Tel: 07 3365 1399

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA BRISBANE SEMINARS

MARCH 17 and 20, 10.00 to 11.00 am

LIVES LESS ORDINARY Records of Women

APRIL 17 and 21, 10.00 to 11.00 am

THE HOME FRONT World War II

MAY 15 and 19, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm

OUR FAVOURITE RECORDS A display of treasure from the National Archives

16 Corporate Drive
Cannon Hill QLD 4170
Tel: (07) 3249 4226

Outstanding support: Mr Ian Simmonds

Our sets of the *Queensland Legislative Assembly Votes and Proceedings*, *Queensland Reports*, *Queensland Parliamentary Debates*, and *Queensland Government Gazettes* cover Queensland's entire colonial period. The Society holds the only hard copies on open access, apart from those at the Fryer Library, as the State Library provides microform only. Naturally, researchers prefer to use hard copy wherever possible, but over the years these volumes have suffered considerable wear and tear.

Recent funding from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund has enabled us to start restoring the *Votes and Proceedings*, the *Reports*, and the *Parliamentary Debates*, so that we can continue to provide full access.

We are also indebted to Mr Ian Simmonds, who began some years ago to restore the *Queensland Government Gazettes*, quietly removing a few volumes at a time and just as quietly bringing them back to us, transformed. Despite the extreme deterioration of the bindings as he found them, Mr Simmonds has succeeded in salvaging much of the lettering on the spines

and integrating this original material into secure new bindings. To date he has restored 62 volumes! Without his timely intervention, some of these would literally have fallen apart. This is a labour of love for Mr Simmonds, a member of the Society since 1994, and a keen supporter of our lectures programme. We would like Mr Simmonds to know how highly we value his sustained contribution.

The love of Queensland and its history, which brings us together, enables us to meet some truly generous people.

people include Sir George Ferguson Bowen, Lady Diamantina Di Roma Bowen, Archer family, Isabella Petrie, Theophilus Pugh, Frank and Alex Jardine, Nicholson family and Silvester Diggles. The bust of Robert Herbert, Queensland's first Premier, is also on display. Researchers for this exhibition were historian Rod Fisher, Janice Hess and Robyn Stephensen.

Janice Hess

Hon Exhibitions Curator

Robyn Stephensen

Hon Assist Exhibitions Curator

THANK YOU!

Thanks to Main Roads historian Lyall Lord for donating a list of dates for photographs in Reckitt and Mills Photographic Album 19 held by the Society. Lyall's most recent publication is 'Roads in the Wilderness, the history of roads of North Queensland from the 1860s to the present day

Important Events 1860

Appointment and Election of the First Parliament

4 April

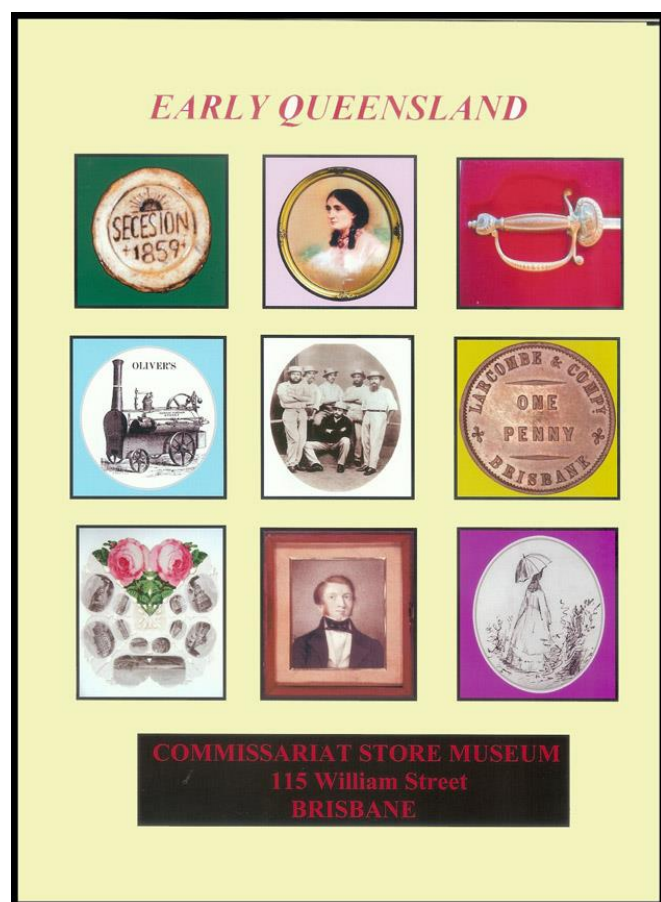
Writs issued, returning Officers named, dates and places of nomination, Polling places, writs to be returned by 18 May

27 April to 11 May

Polling days

1 May

Proclamation by the Governor-General Sir William Denison appointing eleven members of the Legislative Council for five years.



Poster designed by Janice Hess

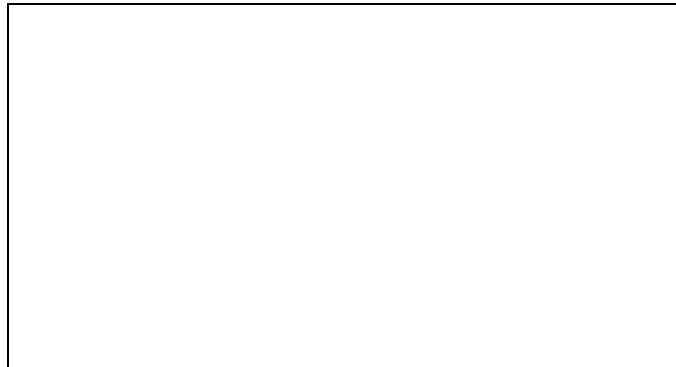
Exhibition Curator's Report

The museum has been very busy with visitors viewing the exhibitions such as *Thomas Welsby 'Recognition at last'*, *Moreton Bay Penal Settlement* and *HM Penal Establishment, St Helena*. Thanks go to David Rex for his help with the installation of the model of the Sugar Mill on St Helena. Over the past couple of weeks the *Signs of Separation* exhibition has been re-designed and is now open to the public as the *Early Queensland* exhibition. This interesting exhibition displays objects, photos and text on many prominent people who played an important role in the history of early Queensland. These

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Important Events and Functions Calendar

April 2010

Thursday 8 April Council Meeting

Wednesday 14 April 12.30 pm

'History of the Forgan Smith Building at the University of Queensland'

Clive Moore

Thursday 15 April *Bulletin* Deadline

Thursday 15 April 6.00 pm

'How the University came to St Lucia'

Peter Brown

May 2010

Wednesday 12 May 12.30 pm

'Development of the Timber Industry on the North Coast'

Peter Osborne

Thursday 13 May Council Meeting

Tuesday 18 May *Bulletin* Deadline

Thursday 20 May 6.00 pm

'The inaugural five female members of the HSQ: their stories'

Jean Stewart

Saturday 29 May

'The First Queensland Parliament 1860-1863' Conference

Important Announcement From the Editor

Until further notice the printed version of the *Bulletin* will be limited to four pages. The full version will be available to those who have submitted their email address. We urge you to receive your *Bulletin* by email, as this will significantly reduce our printing costs. Please contact Katy Law on (07) 3221 4198 to submit your email address.

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Ordinary Member	\$60.00
Partner of Member	\$20.00
Junior Member (18)	\$10.00
Full-time Student (25)	\$25.00
Affiliated Society	\$45.00
Libraries Subscription	\$60.00
Corporate/Institutions	\$75.00
Life membership – purchased after 10 years	\$1,000.00

