



RHSQ

Royal Historical Society of Queensland

THE RHSQ

Bulletin

AUGUST 2010 No. 744

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



Picture: RHSQ P5162

LANDS OFFICE, GEORGE STREET

BUILT 1862-63
Photograph c 1909

Together with the Lands Office, this photograph shows the site of the Hotel Daniell on the right, originally the residence of Mr Robert Little, First Crown Solicitor

President's Report for July

One of the notable events of the Society's year is the Clem Lack Oration, usually, but not this year, delivered on AGM night. Always it is a significant piece of research, worthy of the name of that notable Queensland-born journalist, who was the Society's editor for many years. This year's orator, our patron, Her Excellency the Governor of Queensland, Ms Penelope Wensley A O, spoke about the one hundred years of *Fernberg* as Government House, and many of us gathered there for this very special occasion. In time the talk will be printed in our *Queensland His-*

tory Journal, that wonderful historical resource that the Society has been producing since 1914, a year after the formation of the Society itself.

Back copies of some of these journals are still available and will be available for purchase at the RHSQ At Home on 14 August. Do have a look at our website to see the contents list of each journal, to see which volumes in particular interest you, or your friends who may not be members. I remind you that you are welcome to submit papers for possible inclusion in the Journal. For details and the Style Guide look on our website.

Before the last Council meeting our manager, Katy Law and Councillor Sasha Broughton, demonstrated how the new RHSQ Facebook page has been set up. Stringent protocols have been adhered to, but I am sure this will bring our activities, and the Commissariat Store itself, to the notice of many more people than has been feasible in the past.

I encourage you if you can to put some time aside on 14 August to visit RHSQ. William Street itself is one of the most fascinating areas in the CBD, and your Society is proud to be in this historic precinct. Next door to us is the building that was the Queensland Museum before it moved to Gregory Terrace in 1899. On our other side is the former Immigration Depot, now National Trust House, and Queen's Wharf Road below us was once the major point of access to the river. The former Treasury Building, Executive Building and Lands Office, the wonderful former Government Printing Office where the Votes and Proceedings and the Government Gazettes were printed – our newly-restored volumes have not travelled very far – all these are well worth looking at, as are Parliament House, Old Government House and the City Botanic Gardens.

It is good to hear from our volunteer guides just how much visitors enjoy our building, and the remarks made by the many school children who come to learn about our convict past. 'Murder stories' and 'ankle chains' were favourites according to just two of the thank you letters I was shown recently by guide David Rex.

At the recent Council meeting it was decided:

- To formalise Katy Law's job description as Manager and Curator
- That one issue of the 2013 *Queensland History Journal* will have articles relevant to our centenary
- To hold a function to showcase the panoramic photographs recently restored through a grant received from Jupiter's Casino
- To appoint Marilyn England as chair of the Museum Committee
- To purchase a new computer and external hard drive
- To seek more guides for The Commissariat Store Museum to cope with the volume of visitors, and to ask for more Special Project Officers to assist in the writing of grant applications

Carolyn Nolan
President

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA BRISBANE SEMINARS

August 18 and 21, 10 am to 11am
DEVELOPING FOREIGN
RELATIONS - 1901 to 1950

A look at the development of Australia as a nation separate from the motherland and its role in world affairs

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

Draft Constitution

As members of the Society you will be aware your Council has been working on modernising the Society's Constitution and Rules since late last year. Submissions were called for in November's *Bulletin*. I am pleased to advise that a copy of the draft Constitution approved by the Society's Council was distributed with last month's *Bulletin* to enable consideration by members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 19 August 2010. For those who receive their *Bulletin* by email, the draft constitution was attached.

A motion has been included on the agenda by your Council to allow the draft constitution to be considered and amendments, if any, to be approved and adopted.

As Chairperson of the working group on the Constitution, I would appreciate anyone who has any matters that they wish to raise about the draft constitution to contact me either by email: denverbeanland@hotmail.com or by telephone on 3217 7229 so that these may be discussed and resolved, where possible, before the AGM.

There is one change that I want to mention in particular. The financial year is being changed from the end of May to 30 June each year, which will mean that the AGM may be held as late as September. With the modernising of the Constitution it is proposed to place it on the Society's website for ease of access by all members.

Denver Beanland
Immediate Past President

RHSQ At Home

In view of the small attendance at Thursday night lectures, the Council has decided to replace them with 'RHSQ at Home' on Saturdays three times a year between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm. There will be two history papers presented each of 25 minutes duration plus time for questions. Also, there will be a report from the President and displays and guided tours.

An entry fee of \$5.00 will be charged together with a small fee for morning and afternoon teas and a guided tour. Lunch will not be provided.

The first 'RHSQ at Home' will be held on Saturday 14 August. The proposed program is:

- 10.00 am Welcome by President Carolyn Nolan
- 10.20 am Elaine Brown talk 'Gympie Gold'
- 11.00 am Morning Tea
- 11.30 am Library Displays and talk
- 12.00 noon to 1.00 pm Lunch Break
- 1.30 pm Opening of 'Chinese in Queensland' exhibition
- 2.00 pm Ray Poon talk on 'Chinese in Qld'
- 2.45 pm Afternoon tea
- 4.00 pm Close

Council Members

The following members of the Council are required to apply for reelection at the next Annual General Meeting in August

President	Carolyn Nolan
Vice President	Manfred Cross
Vice President	Richard Morgan
Vice President	Hilary Fisher
Hon. Secretary	Ruth Kerr
Hon. Treasurer	Barrie Rollason
Member	Jean Stewart
Member	Janet Hogan
Member	John Pearn
Member	Rebecca Ling
Member	Katy Law
Member	John Mills
Member	Robert Hogg

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of

THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

to be held on

THURSDAY 19 AUGUST 2010 at 6 pm

at the

Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane

AGENDA for ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting
2. Consideration of the Annual Report of the President
3. Consideration of audited annual financial statement
4. Election of the President, three Vice Presidents, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, eight Councillors
5. Appointment of Patron of the Society
6. Appointment of an Honorary Auditor
7. Motion for new Constitution proposed by the Council of the Society:

'That the Constitution circulated to members of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland with today's date, 19 August 2010, containing an index and 42 clauses be approved and adopted in lieu of the current Constitution and Rules.'
8. Any other business.

Ruth S Kerr
Hon. Secretary

Queensland History News

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

Chillagoe – With the split of Queensland's railways into two entities from 1 July 2010 lines which previously had the status of 'services suspended' were officially closed. The line from Almaden to Chillagoe and Mungana is one of those lines. A bridge just west of Almaden was burnt out in the late 1990s.

Maytown – Twin brothers of the Tekaats family travelled from the United States to Ah Toy's Garden on Lonestar Creek on the North Palmer north of Maytown in May 2010. They had lived there in the hut with their parents and other siblings from 1939 to 1942 to avoid internment. They later went to Sydney and then migrated to the United States. They were guided there by Steven Trezise and found remains of the hut site and garden area. The Tekaats obtained details of the site by accessing through the internet the authors, Ian Jack, Ruth Kerr and Kate Holmes, of the article, 'Ah Toy's Garden: A Chinese Market-Garden on the Palmer River Goldfield', *Australian Journal of Historical Archaeology*, vol. 2, October 1984, pp.51-58. (*Cooktown Local News* 2 June 2010 p.6)

Welsby Library Report for July

There is no report this month as Judy was on holidays.

Research Report for July

It has been a very quiet month with only a couple of visitors. Most of the Research team was very busy with the Book Auction and all contributed to the success of the evening on 2 July when over \$5000 was taken and nearly all books were sold. It was the culmination of about eighteen months work to select the books and to prepare the paperwork and Catalogue for the Auction as well as carrying out the necessary publicity both by advertising in the *Courier-Mail* and emailing book dealers and collectors. We were indebted to Mr Bruce Blocksidge for his expert advice and skill as an auctioneer. I particularly thank the members of the Research team and other volunteers for their help and support.

Enquiries were received on the following: from an historian of Beaudesert to look at the diary of WR Alexander which was written in pencil and is very faint although a transcription has been attempted; photos of the Geebung area; Jersey Stud books; the life of Walter Taylor of the bridge fame by a descendant; the Langton family of Rosalie Shire; and John Tinker Campbell. Assistance was given to Marilyn England, curator of our art collection, to research the Pollock family of Gympie for inclusion in an exhibition she is planning on Gympie and the Pollock collection held by the Society.

Jean Stewart
Honorary Research Officer



CHINESE ON THE ROAD TO THE PALMER.

Exhibition Curator's Report

The picture above depicts 'Chinese on the way to the Palmer' and will be part of our latest exhibition.

The *Chinese in Queensland* exhibition is progressing well and a meeting with Ray Poon and

Leong Teoh proved worthwhile for gaining more information on the topic. This exhibition which will be featured in one cabinet on the first floor also showcases banners by Ray Poon and the Queensland State Archives. The museum thanks Gary and Kathy Hammermeister and Yvonne Rissen for their contributions. Objects on display will include: artefacts from the Palmer River Goldfields, a Chinese Wine Pot and Cover (1850), porcelain Vase (1850) and Soy Sauce Bottles (1870) from the Northern Queensland goldfields.

Don't miss the opening on 14 August 2010 at 1.30pm. There will be a talk by Ray Poon at 2pm on 'Chinese in Queensland'.

Janice Hess
Hon. Exhibitions Curator
Robyn Stephensen
Hon. Assist. Exhibitions Curator

New Member

Janet O'Sullivan

Chapel Hill

NOTICE

Volunteers Required

Volunteers are required for two or three consecutive days near the end of the month to help with the preparation of *The RHSQ Bulletin* and the *Queensland History Journal* for postage.

If you are available please contact Katy Law on 3221 4198 or email info@queenslandhistory.com.au

QUEENSLAND STATE ARCHIVES SEMINARS, TALKS AND TOURS

Tuesday 3 August, 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm
Getting Started

at

State Archives Lecture Theatre 2

Friday 13 August, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm

Finding your ancestors at SLQ, QSA and NAA

at
SLQ Auditorium 2, Level 2

Tuesday 21 September, 10.00 am to 11.00 am
Advanced Archives Search

at
Queensland State Archives, Lecture Theatre 2

Tuesday 28 September, 10.00 am to 11.00 am
Morning Tea with Public Access

at
Queensland State Archives

Bookings essential: 07 3131 7777

NOTICE

A new feature entitled 'Museum Report' will appear in future issues of the *Bulletin*. Marilyn England, our newly appointed chairperson of the Museum Committee, will be writing an each month detailing what is happening in our Museum.

THE QUEENSLAND QUIZ 2

Ten thought provoking questions. Answers next issue.

1. What was the name of Mr Oxley's ship when he explored Moreton Bay?
 - a. Sunfish
 - b. Dolphin
 - c. Mermaid
 - d. Whaleshark
2. The first steam locomotive in Queensland was produced in what city/town?
 - a. Brisbane
 - b. Ipswich
 - c. Maryborough
 - d. Roma
3. The town of Roma was proclaimed in what year?
 - a. 1840
 - b. 1852
 - c. 1862
 - d. 1870
4. Brisbane City hall was the tallest building in Brisbane until what year?
 - a. 1967
 - b. 1957
 - c. 1955
 - d. 1975
5. The corner of what state borders is called 'Poeppel Corner'?
 - a. South Australia, NSW and Queensland
 - b. South Australia and Northern Territory
 - c. South Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland
 - d. South Australia and Queensland.
6. What was the name of the first steamer to anchor in Moreton Bay?
 - a. Alexander Bell
 - b. James Watt
 - c. Abraham Lincoln
 - d. Isaac Newton
7. What was the date of the above occurrence?
 - a. August 1824
 - b. August 1854
 - c. August 1848
 - d. August 1837
8. During the 16 years of the 'convict period' Brisbane had eight commandants. What was the highest rank held?
 - a. Ensign
 - b. Lieutenant
 - c. Captain
 - d. Major
9. What was the original name of the Logan River?
 - a. Murray
 - b. Beenleigh
 - c. Loganlea
 - d. Darling
10. The first railway in Queensland opened in what year?
 - a. 1860
 - b. 1865
 - c. 1870
 - d. 1875

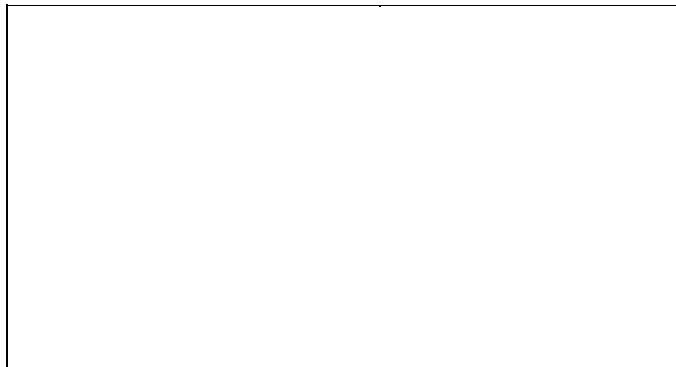
Bus Trip To Towoomba

A bus trip to visit the Cobb & Co Museum, Lionel Lindsay Art Gallery and Bolton Library and the Main Roads Heritage Centre is planned for Sunday 24 October, departing the Commissariat Store at 8.00 am and arriving back at 6.00 pm. Morning tea and lunch provided. Cost \$50.00. Please mark the date in your diary – more details to come in following issues.

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

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 AUSTRALIA



Important Events and Functions Calendar

August 2010

Wednesday 11 August No lecture (Ekka)

Thursday 12 August Council Meeting

Saturday 14 August 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

‘RHSQ AT HOME’ see note on page 3

Tuesday 17 August *Bulletin* Deadline

Thursday 19 August 6.00 pm

Annual General Meeting

September 2010

Wednesday 8 September 10.00 am TBA

Thursday 9 September Council meeting

Wednesday 15 September *Bulletin* deadline

Important Announcement

From the Editor

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.

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	\$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

The Society acknowledges financial assistance from the Queensland Government and the Brisbane City Council