



THE RHSQ

Bulletin

71 years of continuous publication

NOVEMBER 2013 No. 780

The newsletter of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

Patron: Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland

President: Helen McMonagle

Website: www.queenslandhistory.org.au



**THE ABOVE PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS THE 2013 CENTENARY MEDAL
RECIPIENTS WITH THE RHSQ PRESIDENT AND PATRON AT GOVERNMENT
HOUSE 17 SEPTEMBER 2013**

Front Row (L to R): Lyndsay Smith, Pat Broughton, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland, Alan Broughton

Middle Row (L to R): Helen McMonagle, Val Donovan, Beth Johnson, Cynthia Berthelsen

Back Row (L to R): Jean Stewart, Margaret Kowald

President's Report for October

The RHSQ is busily working on many projects including the digitisation of key documents from our collection, thanks to our member, The Honourable Campbell Newman MP, Premier of Queensland, who has provided a grant of \$30,000 to implement this project and new electronic displays for the museum which are possible through the receipt of two federal government *Your Community Heritage* grants, and is being undertaken by a special RHSQ committee, ToadShow Pty Ltd and special consultant Ms Maroochy Barambah.

The Society has also taken part in a number of events this month, which has kept our volunteers very busy: On 9 and 10 October, I took part in the Queensland Plan Summit at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. This summit brought together hundreds of representatives from Queensland's government, business and community sectors to put together a 30-year plan for Queensland, and strategies to implement these plans. The summit was a great success, with plenty of opportunities to promote the importance of history and heritage for Queensland's future.

The Society and Commissariat Store once again took part in the Brisbane Open House event, this year held on Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 October. A record number of 940 people visited the museum over the two days. Thanks to the donation of a barbecue and gas bottle from Architectus, we held a sausage sizzle in the courtyard, which proved very popular and made a sizable profit for the Society. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their weekend to work at this event – it wouldn't have been possible without you.

The Ipswich City Council Library hosted a seminar on Tuesday 15 October entitled *Looking Back: Footsteps through Ipswich*. The RHSQ was invited to provide a speaker, so I presented a paper on Ludwig Leichhardt, touching on his travels through Ipswich and connections to residents of the town. The seminar was well attended with 105 people.

The RHSQ hosted another 'At Home' on Saturday 19 October at the Commissariat Store. The Honourable Ian Walker MP, Minister for Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts opened our new display of restored panoramas and undertook a tour of the display. There was a welcome for new members after morning tea, followed by a tour of the Commissariat Store. In the afternoon Professor Clive Moore opened our new exhibition commemorating the arrival of South Sea Islanders to Queensland in 1863. Kathy Frankland then presented a paper on the use of archival records

to research Australian South Sea Islander history with a focus on what can be found in records created by the Chief Protector of Aboriginals Office. Also, Jean Stewart presented a paper entitled *George Raff of Morayfield and his sugar plantation*. We received many positive comments about the day.

On 25 October the Commissariat Store hosted the SEQ Small Museum Conference Welcome Reception. The Commissariat Store provided a comfortable atmosphere for conference attendees to meet each other, and we thank the Brisbane Living Heritage Network for their support of our Society.

The final official event for the year will be our November *At Home* to be held on Saturday 23, which will feature the launch of our next exhibition on aviation in Queensland. I hope that you will all be able to attend.

Events from 1913

Notable events which occurred in November 1913 (taken from *Pugh's Almanac for 1914*): 1st - Harry Lawson set a new record for club-swinging in Cairns under revised rules, swinging his club for 98 hours; 4th - 30 oz of gold was discovered in 30 lb of stone at Georgetown; 10th - Brisbane City Council purchased the Acclimatisation Society's Gardens for the sum of £10,000; 18th - an extraordinary heat wave caused the maximum shade temperature to rise to 106 degrees (41°C) in Brisbane; 21st - Henry Boucher, aged 12 years, was bitten by a shark while bathing at Sandgate, the calf of his left leg was severely bitten [surgically amputated - *SMH* 24 December 1913] and his left hand injured.

Helen McMonagle
President

Queensland News for September

News From Around the State

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

Ascot and Cooroy Railway Stations - Queensland Rail received a Highly Commended award for the re-instatement of historic paint schemes on the Ascot Railway Station and the Cooroy Railway Station complex in the Annual National Trust of Queensland Heritage Awards held on 30 August. The awards evening was attended by Her Excellency The Governor of Queensland, Ms Penelope Wensley AC and the Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection, The Honourable Andrew Powell MP. (Queensland Rail *Weekly Bulletin*, edition 36, 19 September 2013 including photograph of Ascot

Station)

Cardwell – The historic calophyllum trees on the shoreline have not been aided by the Reconstruction Cardwell Project after they were battered by cyclone *Yasi*. A visiting arborist David Hawthorne has reported inadequate protection zones around the trees (12 times the width of the tree trunk at breast height is considered appropriate). The arborist stated that the design of foreshore restoration work has not included the calophyllums. (*Tully Times* 8 August 2013 p.1 including photograph)

Charters Towers – A century old dairy farmer's miner's style house in Wilson Street has been restored. The farmer supplied milk to surrounding area and rented horses to American soldiers during World War II. The house, which was restored around 2003 by Wayne Barrie and artist, Robyn Barrie, contains three bedrooms, a lounge room, a dining room and a kitchen. There is a separate brick laundry. (*Northern Miner Charters Towers* 9 August 2013 p.14 including two photographs of the house then and now)

Eidsvold – 'The Bancroft Exhibition — A Family of Medical and Scientific Endeavour' at the RM Williams Bush Learning Centre tells the story of three generations of the Bancroft family, including Dr Thomas (Tom) Bancroft, who was the medical officer at Eidsvold Hospital from 1910–1930. Co-curator of The Bancroft Exhibition, Evelyn Bancroft, is married to the grandson of Dr Tom and has been working on the exhibition since the start of the year. Mrs Bancroft is part of the fourth generation of the family that still lives in Eidsvold and is the custodian of family memorabilia and more than 1000 photos that Dr Tom took from 1884–1933. Dr Tom's photos show that his talents extended from the scientific to the artistic. Mrs Bancroft said Dr Tom was considered a medical pioneer, but his ambition was to be a scientist. On display is a chair from England from 1864, Dr Tom's desk and domes with 10 native birds. Professor John Pearn, from the Royal Children's Hospital and a Councillor of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland, opened the exhibition. The President of the RHSQ, Helen McMonagle, and Che Aberdeen, a Councillor of the RHSQ, also attended the opening of the exhibition. (*South Burnett Times* 19 September 2013 p.18 including a photograph of Che Aberdeen and Helen McMonagle in front of an exhibit)

Eumundi – The School of Arts is 101 years old. A community fund raising concert is being held on 16 November with Katie Noonan, the Tulipwood String Quartet, Louise King and the Cello Dreaming Youth Ensemble. Since last year's centenary celebratory concert with Katie Noonan it has been a big year for Eumundi's School of Arts community

hall. The building is actually owned and looked after by the community, not by council or state government, but by Eumundi and a large, dedicated group of people over its life with many ups and downs. When it was built in 1912 it was two storeys and considered one of the finest in south east Queensland, but an infestation by termites saw it being lowered to one storey. Timber halls need maintenance and this year has been an expensive one, but the community is committed to preserving this piece of history and to see it continue for the next generations. (Discover Eumundi Heritage and Visitor Centre and National trust of Queensland)

Gympie – The historic Gympie Eldorado gold mine owned by FE Limited has been purchased by a Singapore based private mining and metals trading company. The mine closed in late 2008 as a consequence of the then company's losses in its southern coal mine through fire. FE Limited will retain rights to a net smelter royalty on gold recovered from the mine and tailings and 10 percent of the profits on the sale of any of its freehold land. The Gympie Eldorado mine contains 'glory holes' of gold bearing ore which have been accessed since the late nineteenth century. (*Gympie Times* 3 August 2013 p.5 including photograph of an underground drill)

Longreach – Qantas Founder's Museum has celebrated its 25th anniversary with a major dinner. The late Joe Shannon, a Longreach grazier, saw the opportunity to create the museum. Work began in 1994 to design the whole museum building. The museum is now working on recording the history of the early years of Qantas. (*Longreach Leader* 30 August 2013 p.13 including photograph)

Mareeba – The Heritage Centre has launched new exhibits of the *Carrier's Arms* Hotel 1892-1952 (predecessor of the *Ant Hill* Hotel) and the gaol on 17 August 2013. Mary Thompson and Patrick Mason, museum volunteers, gave historical lectures on the occasion. Volunteers and members also went on a tour of modern local businesses – Perlite Factory, Dole Banana Packing Shed and JW Plastics. (*Tablelands Advertiser* 9 August 2013 p.2)

Mareeba – The Uniting Church in Walsh Street, Mareeba has been recommended for listing on the Queensland Heritage Register. The church was designed by Cairns architect, Edwin Henry Oribin and was completed in 1960. Oribin was influenced by American architect, Frank Lloyd Wright. The church congregation and minister have noted that heritage listing may impact on future worship and they are negotiating with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection on this. (*Tablelands Advertiser* 30

August 2013 p.5)

Maryborough Railway Station Superintendent's House – Queensland Rail received a Silver Award for the restoration and conservation of the former Station Superintendent's residence at Maryborough Railway Station. The building has been restored to its 1890s form and presentation. The award was presented at the Annual National Trust of Queensland Heritage Awards held on 30 August 2013. The awards evening was attended by Her Excellency The Governor of Queensland, Ms Penelope Wensley AC and the Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection, The Honourable Andrew Powell MP. (Queensland Rail *Weekly Bulletin*, edition 36, 19 September 2013)

Maytown – The location of Alfred Starcke's 1882 metal survey peg located at the corner of High and Leslie Streets has been set in a ground level concrete base with appropriate steel plate identifying the exact location of the surveyor's underground peg. The peg was located in July 1982 by Jim Cullen and he and the Palmer River Historic Preservation Society surveyed the town layout and identified 53 business and residential sites of Maytown as per Starcke's 1882 survey. Thirty-six shop fronts were marked by in-ground plaques. The school, cemetery, warden's residence, and all six streets were signposted. A large map of the town was erected. The Palmer River Society erected a Pioneer Monuments and Time Capsule structure two metres from the survey peg. (Letter to Editor by John C Hay. *Cooktown Local News* 5-11 September 2013 p.4 including three photographs)

Shipton's Flat – Bana Yarrlji Rangers, Wet Tropics Management Authority and South Cape York Catchments have established an Information Booth at Shipton's Flat. There is a brief history of the Kuku Nyungkal People and their land practices and language. The Booth is one km off the Bloomfield Track between Rossville and Helensvale. (*Cooktown Local News* 12-18 September 2013 p.25 including photograph)

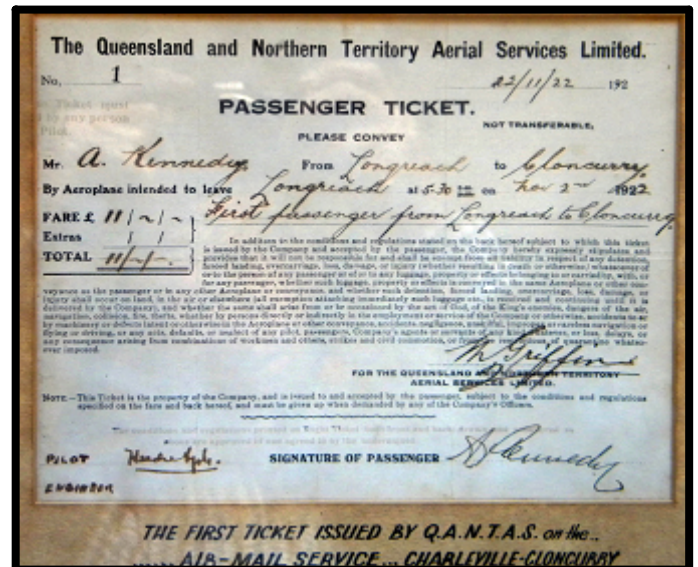
Toowoomba Range Railway – On the range shuttles for the Carnival of Flowers in September Queensland Rail staff worked on solving some railway archaeology. Mick Saffiotti (Guard on the shuttle trains) had heard the story of a sandstone block in the top of the portal lining for tunnel nine on the range with initials carved in it. It took a couple of efforts but Mick, with the assistance of the loco crew on locomotive 1620, were safely able to take a photo of the object. Initials carved in it were PBB, which of course was easily explained to interested parties that Peto, Brassey and Betts were the contractors for

Sections One to Five on the Southern and Western Railway from Ipswich to Toowoomba. (Mr Greg Hallam, Queensland Railways, 25 September 2013)

Warwick – The oldest shop in Warwick – Plumbs Chambers at 82 Fitzroy Street – is likely to be demolished after being removed from the Queensland Heritage Register. The shop is on the site of the proposed Rose City Shoppingworld. The sandstone building, at 84 Fitzroy Street is to be retained. In 2012 John Barnes, owner of *Canning Downs* property, offered to buy Plumbs Chambers for \$500,000 from the McConaghy Group and restore the building. The offer has not been taken up. (Warwick *Daily News* 29 June 2013 p.7 including two photographs)

Winton – The Qantilda Museum has participated in the self assessment program run by Museum and Gallery Services Queensland. The museum undertook a review of its collection policy. They have a collection of 120 wool bale stencils which is considered significant. (*Longreach Leader* 30 August 2013 p.5)

Museum Curator's Report



Qantas Ticket No. 1

Ref: RHSQ Collection

The photograph of the above ticket shows a copy of the original Qantas Ticket No. 1, which is part of the RHSQ collection. The 'Aviation in Queensland' exhibition, which opens on 23 November will display the original ticket for the opening of the exhibition only. This is a rare opportunity to see the Qantas No. 1 ticket, which was issued to Alexander Kennedy on 2 November 1922

for the first passenger flight on 3 November 1922.

Merv Cobcroft has loaned us some first day aero philately covers to add to the display along with a piece of slate tile from Bert Hinkler's home in Southampton. Marilyn England, after returning from outback Queensland, has also provided photos for the display.

Graeme Nicholson has written some very interesting text on 'Hangar No. 7' at Eagle Farm. He has also provided photographs of Eagle Farm during World War II and will give a short talk: 'Queensland Aviation Pioneers' at the opening.

The museum would especially like to thank Tom Harwood from the Qantas Founders Museum in Longreach for all the wonderful photographs and assistance he has given for this display.

Janice Hess
Honorary Museum Curator

New Members

Lee Freeman	Annerley
Robin Sullivan	Carindale
Rachael Grimes	Yeronga
Warren Swain	St Lucia
John Parke	Manly
Nigel Turvey	Darwin

Research Report for October

The research team continues to be busily occupied with many diverse inquiries including: a request from a PhD student from Sydney for images of Brisbane in the 1930s (1937) for her creative writing program, for which we provided her a digital image of Petrie Bight, 1934, showing the wharf and commercial buildings. She was delighted, especially as we were able to suggest access to specific images held by another repository; a query if the library held *The Lone Wolf: the last of the old-time prospectors*; supply of a 1983 JRHSQ featuring 'The Wreck of the *Charles Eaton*'; permission to place a RHSQ collection image of Nugent Wade Brown, previously supplied, on the client's website (with acknowledgement); info about the naming of Bartley's Hill, Clayfield; query from UK re family history and a site at 22 Spring Street, Spring Hill and Military Museum; request for suitable old photographs to place on wall of a Wool Store apartment; request for photographs of Hyde Road, Yeronga; request for wedding display for Miegunyah of Evelyn Jane Harris in her wedding gown; info on Ludwig Leichhardt's visit to Ipswich; early history of Darien Street, Bridgeman Downs; and info on a

possible smelting operation on a property at Buccan, near Logan.

The library received a gift of two booklets and newspaper cuttings relating to the sheep and wool industry from Alpena County George N Fletcher Public Library (Michigan, USA) found after a recent stock take. With the research volunteers reduced to this researcher and Lyndsay, our photography expert, and a first-day work experience student we fulfilled a substantial request from the hard working Editor, Margaret Kowald, for suitable images from the collection for the forthcoming Centenary Journal. So the RHSQ library collection is being well utilised.

Val Donovan
Honorary Research Officer

EVENTS AT THE QLD STATE ARCHIVES

Tuesday 5 November 10.00 - 11.00 am

'Nursing in Queensland'

Learn about nursing in Qld and the interesting records and images that can be found in our archives.

Tuesday 19 November 10.00 am - 12 noon

'Getting Started'

Learn about the Qld State archives collection and how best to find the information you are seeking.

Entry is free.

To book, please call 07 3131 7777

A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

If you are contemplating submitting an article for *The RHSQ Bulletin* please ensure that you use Times New Roman Font with a Font size of 12. Single spacing should be used and justified as you see in the columns above.

**Graeme Nicholson
Honorary Editor**

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 RHSQ Bulletin: PP100004098
 RHSQ Journal: PP100004097

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IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

NOVEMBER 2013

Wednesday 13 November 12.30 pm

Jean Stewart will speak on John Oxley the person and Vicky Mynott of the Inala Richlands Historical Society will speak about his journey up the Brisbane River.

Thursday 14 November Council Meeting

Friday 15 November *Bulletin* deadline

Saturday 23 November 'Aviation in Queensland' Exhibition opens

YOUR TALK FOR NOVEMBER

The November talk will be in recognition of the 190th anniversary of John Oxley's journey up the Brisbane River.

Queensland History Journal August Issue

The editors have become aware that some of the August Issue of the Queensland History Journal are not printed correctly. Some pages are in the wrong order or upside down. If you have one of these, please email: info@queenslandhistory.org.au or telephone (07) 3221 4198

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The Society acknowledges financial assistance from: The Department of Multicultural Affairs; The National Library of Australia Community Heritage Grant; Queensland Government Gambling Community Benefit Fund; Lord Mayor Graham Quirk, The Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund, Brisbane City Council; Jupiters Casino Community Benefit Fund; Queensland State Archives; Blocksidge and Ferguson Real Estate; Our Honorary Auditor, Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd.

Subscriptions:

Ordinary Member	\$66.00
Partner of Member	\$22.00
Junior Member (U18)	\$11.00
Full-time Student (U25)	\$33.00
Affiliated Society	\$55.00
Subscription fee for libraries	\$66.00
Corporate/Institutions	\$275.00
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