



THE RHSQ

# Bulletin

*71 years of continuous publication*

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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](http://www.queenslandhistory.org.au)



Janice Hess in front of the Aviation Display



Guest speaker Grantlee Kieza



The Aviation Display on the top floor

**SCENES FROM THE  
OPENING OF THE AVIATION  
EXHIBITION AT THE 'AT  
HOME' SATURDAY 23  
NOVEMBER**

## President's Report for November

What a huge year we've had! Thank you to everyone who contributed towards making our Centenary year one to remember. It was with great pride and not a little trepidation that I took on the role of President in September last year, following in the footsteps of so many influential and successful Queenslanders. I am very thankful for the advice and support which I have received from many past-Presidents and members of the Society – your mentoring has increased my knowledge not only of RHSQ policies and procedures, but taught me valuable lessons in management, protocol and networking.

Reading through all the committee reports and council minutes for the last twelve months, I am very proud of all that our Society has achieved during our centenary year and in maintaining our role as Queensland's peak history body.

With this in mind, and as part of our end of year Christmas festivities, we have been busily planning a Separation Day cocktail evening for Tuesday 10 December 2013 between 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm at the Commissariat Store, with the Honourable Tim Mander MP, Minister for Housing and Public Works as our special guest speaker. We hope that you will be able to join us for a relaxing evening of wine, canapés and music to celebrate the anniversary of the separation of Queensland from New South Wales and to bring our centenary year to a close in style.

We also have a full complement of activities currently being planned for next year by our Program Committee including: three 'At Homes' plus our Annual Seminar on 21 June 2014; the Queensland Day Dinner on 6 June 2014; the AGM and Clem Lack Oration on 11 September 2014. Please keep an eye on the *Bulletin* for further details as they arise.

The launch by Cr Vicki Howard, Councillor for the Central Ward, of our new exhibition on early aviation pioneers in Queensland on Saturday 23 November 2013 was a great success, with a very strong turnout of both members and the general public. Grantlee Kieza spoke on Bert Hinkler and Dr Graeme Nicholson on early aviation pioneers. The Registrar-General from the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages kindly lent us the original birth certificates and their source documents for both Bert Hinkler and Charles Kingsford Smith, which were a popular addition to the day, as was another display put together by John and Betty Bencke from the Eagle Farm Aviation Society. The main exhibition was put together by our Honorary Exhibitions Curator Janice Hess with assistance from Dr Graeme Nicholson and Jean Stewart. Janice's daughter

Megan Hess kindly designed the exhibition poster to accompany the display. A big thank you to everyone who helped both leading up to, and on the day.

It was with great sadness that we received Janice Hess's announcement of her retirement from the position at the end of the year. Janice has curated twenty-eight exhibitions over the last ten years, starting with the 'Children's Exhibition: My Choice' in 2003. The exhibitions have had a variety of different themes including notable personalities, events, organisations and community contributions from Queensland's history, and have showcased many items from the Society's collection which the community would not have been able to view otherwise. As mentioned above, Janice's final exhibition is on early aviation pioneers in Queensland, which was launched on Saturday 23 November 2013 and will run for the next twelve months. Janice has kindly offered to act as a consultant to future exhibition curators, which is a great bonus to the Society. On behalf of the RHSQ, I wish Janice all the best for the future and acknowledge her significant contribution to the success of our Society and the Commissariat Store Museum over the last ten years. I also acknowledge the support work undertaken by Bill Hess and Megan Hess, particularly the beautiful exhibition posters Megan designed for each of the projects. Thank you Jan and the whole Hess Family!

I hope you have enjoyed the 1913 Notable Events section which I have included in my reports this year. The final instalment for events which occurred in December 1913 (taken from *Pugh's Almanac for 1914*) are: 8<sup>th</sup> – H J Maurer charged in the Toowoomba Police Court with having distributed papers at the Federal elections on how to vote and fined £5/6/6; 13<sup>th</sup> – A referendum on the question of the dissolution of the Warwick Town Council taken and resulted 498 for, 528 against; 14<sup>th</sup> – The foundation block of St Cecilia's Church, Hamilton, laid by his Grace Archbishop Duhig and donations of nearly £400 received at the gathering; 22<sup>nd</sup> – Rail-line from Woodford to Kilcoy opened by His Excellency the Governor, Sir William MacGregor GCMG CB.

Merry Christmas and all my very best wishes for the New Year.

Helen McMonagle  
President

## Queensland News for November News From Around the State

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

**Charters Towers** – Retired Queensland Police

Service Sergeant David Langdon and his wife Veronica are travelling Queensland cleaning up lone gravesites of deceased police. They began with Mark Beresford's grave at Kajabbi near Cloncurry. They have now done 37 graves including Patrick Molloy in the Pioneer Cemetery at Charters Towers. Molloy died on 10 December 1892. He had been stationed at Millchester. In their volunteer work the Langdons are not attending to graves after 1914. (Charters Towers *Northern Miner* 9 August 2013 p.3 including photograph)

**Ingham** – Victoria Mill planned steam train trips at the sugar mill for the public for the Maraka festival at the mill in late October. (*Herbert River Express* 19 October 2013 p.7 including photograph of steam locomotive.)

**Kilkivan** – The Gympie Regional Council cut down two large bauhinia trees in Bligh Street, the main street of Kilkivan, in August by mistake. Kilkivan residents have expressed frustration after a similar event occurred in 2011. Mrs Dawn Choate, business woman and former Kilkivan Shire Councillor, expressed concern to the Gympie Council indicating that Council's work procedures needed to be upgraded. The Gympie regional Council Mayor, Cr Ron Dyne (former Mayor of the Kilkivan Shire Council) apologised to the Kilkivan residents for the destruction of the historic trees. In 2011 the railway station building was removed because it was termite infested, although local people had volunteered to restore it. (*Gympie Times* 10 August 2013 pp 3, 11 including two photographs)

**Rockhampton** - The Rockhampton Regional Council has decided to change management of community facilities to community control. This involves heritage assets such as Archer Park Rail Museum. The main reason is to reduce costs to Council. General Manager Michael Rowe addressed a gathering of Friends and Volunteers on 9 August to explain the change procedures. For Archer Park Museum, Council favours a Management Rights Model which allows another party to manage/operate the facility under agreed conditions. The facility will remain the property of the Council who will be responsible for its overall maintenance and upkeep. The status of the Friends' Association and Volunteers in the new operation is unclear but as 'Stakeholders' they wish to be considered in negotiations regarding updating the Museum. Tenders have recently been called for Expressions of Interest in operating the Museum. Council Officers expect that, if satisfactory tenders are received, an agreement can be finalised to allow Council staff, with their equipment, to vacate by Christmas and the new operator to commence

from 2 January 2014. If no satisfactory tenders are received other options will be considered. Council has stated that closure of the Museum is not an option. (*Tram Tracks* vol. 7 no 5, October 2013)

**Toogoolawah** – The Somerset Shire Council has granted \$10,000 to the Toogoolawah History Group to assist with preserving the town's railway station building. The funds are for connecting power and water. The group intends to establish a museum in the building. (*Queensland Times* 31 October 2013 p.3)

**Townsville** – Townsville City Council has purchased the North Railway Yards on Flinders Street West in Townsville for \$20,000 and the TAFE College for over \$5.5 million. Purchase of the railway yards will enable the Queensland Heritage Railway Heritage Volunteers to continue their work on preserving Townsville railway heritage on site. (ABC Townsville News 6 August 2013 and *Townsville Daily Bulletin* 6 August 2013 p.1)

## Research Report for November

I would like to commend the work of Val Donovan and Lyndsay Smith for selecting, copying and emailing the large number of photos from the collection for the latest edition of *The Queensland History Journal*. It was an enormous task undertaken when they were also keeping track of the very large list of enquiries this month while both Kay Cohen and I were away for some of this period. They were assisted in many ways by Beth Johnson and Claire Stewart.

Queries included: William Maxwell; John Jardine of Rockhampton and Somerset; rodent control in Brisbane City for a novel; indigenous people in the early Queensland timber industry; MV *Derwent*; South Sea Islander family history; Duncan Campbell McDonald; details of material such as a diary, journals and cost of items such as clothes and food in the early 1900s for Brisbane, Mackay and Coen for a novel; Quarry in Spring Hill in Bedford Park near Love and Water Streets; United Metal Industries camp oven; LI tree possibly Ludwig Leichhardt's; street name origins of Etty Bay and Etty Beach in Innisfail; Boyd Dunlop Morehead, Premier 1888-1890; metal found at Buccan, Redbank; history of Nerang; Census records for Darien Street, Bridgeman Downs; Jean Hardie and the Kangaroo Point Military Hospital; Ironside State School history.

The winner of the Helen Taylor Award, Deborah Jordan, visited the Library to research Leontine Cooper, a feminist, suffragist, teacher and editor in the early decades of the twentieth century. We were able to find a very rare copy of the

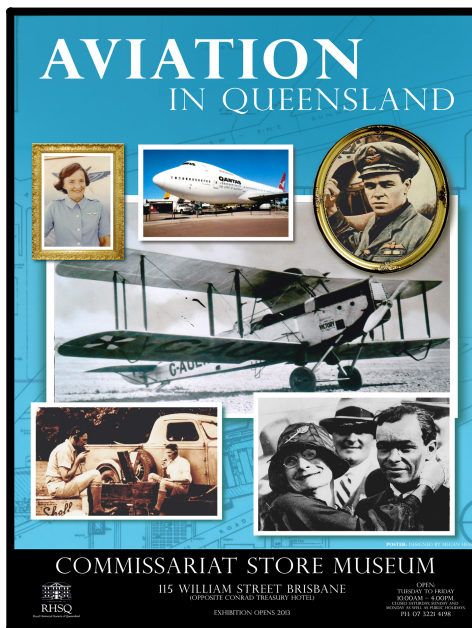
magazine she edited, *Flashes*. Only two other issues have so far been found, so this was a special find.

Jean Stewart  
Honorary Research Officer

## New Members

Sylvia Haworth	Geebung
Susan Boulton	Mt Gravatt
Rebecca Hirst	Alderley
Patricia Fenton	Margate
Maria Gaudiello	Carseldine
Elizabeth and James Wheeler	Graceville

## Museum Curator's Report



The 'Aviation in Queensland' exhibition, which was opened in November, is attracting many viewers who are expressing great interest in all facets of the display. The model 'Catalina' flying boat was designed by Graeme Nicholson and the Society wishes to thank the Beenleigh and District Historical Society Museum for the loan of this model.

After more than 10 years of researching and having presented 28 exhibitions including the above exhibition 'Aviation in Queensland' this is my last for the Society. It has been an honour presenting such a large amount of Queensland history through so many varied topics and I must say that I have enjoyed working on each one. I have always tried to present exhibitions at a very high standard, but the work has been very time consuming. In doing this curating work I have been fortunate in having the help of many people and I am grateful for their contributions. The following people have especially made my job so much easier. They are Robyn Stephensen, Graeme

Nicholson, Jean Stewart, Bill Hess and my daughter Megan Hess.

This is also my last Museum Curator's Report for the *Bulletin* after many years of reporting on exhibitions and other events at the museum. I hope that you will all come along to see 'Aviation in Queensland' over the next 12 months and I wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas.

Janice Hess  
Honorary Museum Curator

## A Request for World War I Material

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland's Honorary Curators, Sandra Vidovic and Timothy Roberts, seek the help of fellow members to provide additional content and/or artifacts for the upcoming ANZAC Centenary Exhibition. It is crucial in the collection process to target local communities and members that have a story to tell about a father, brother, mother or grandparents during the time of WW I. If you are willing to share your story and would like your relative to be recognised in our upcoming exhibition, we would like to hear from you.

What we are looking for are small artifacts or stories which relate to any of the following:

- The ANZACs
- Everyday Brisbane stories during WW I
- Stories of Nurses, factory workers or soldiers.
- Stories relating to the European communities of WW I, both in Brisbane and overseas.

[Please send your contributions by email ATTENTION EXHIBITION CURATORS to info@queenslandhistory.org.au](mailto:info@queenslandhistory.org.au)

## From the Federation of Australian Historical Societies

### The Annual General Meeting, Canberra

The Federation held its annual general meeting and its quarterly general meeting at the Canberra and District Historical Society's (CDHS) headquarters in Canberra on 9 August 2013. Delegates were impressed with the CDHS's archival collections and displays and with the very warm and generous hospitality provided. The following day most of the delegates attended the one-day Symposium 'Canberra: Hidden Histories and 'Back Stories' organised by the CDHS as its contribution to the Centenary of Canberra celebrations. All the papers and panel discussions were not only informative but well-presented and enjoyable. The next day an

excellent special tour of selected heritage sites in Canberra was arranged especially for the FAHS.

### **National online heritage portal for Australia: Australia's Community Heritage [www.communityheritage.net.au](http://www.communityheritage.net.au)**

The Honourable Mark Butler MP, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Water, has officially launched Australia's Community Heritage site. The website provides individuals and heritage organisations with the opportunity of freely sharing their local heritage at a centralised location. Historical Societies around Australia are strongly encouraged to create a free account and add information about their organisation and their district's heritage. The site can also be used to promote heritage-related events.

You are invited to visit the site: [www.communityheritage.net.au](http://www.communityheritage.net.au) and sign up.

The Federation has engaged Andrew Bowman to assist Historical Societies in this endeavour.

If your Society would like further information, guidance or information added for you, please

contact Andrew by e-mail on: [andrew@carnamah.com.au](mailto:andrew@carnamah.com.au)

### **Advocacy on behalf of historical societies and similar groups**

In face-to-face meetings and in writing, the Federation's Advocacy Officer and Immediate Past-President, Professor Don Garden, has represented the interests of community history and heritage groups to government and opposition politicians and government officers with a responsibility for heritage.

### **Proposed delegation of powers of the federal *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act)**

A letter has also been written to Hon Greg Hunt MP, Shadow Minister for Climate Action, Environment and Heritage and Member for Flinders re possible delegation to the States and Territories of powers of the Commonwealth government under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC). The Honorable Greg Hunt MP has replied advising that a policy approach is to reduce bureaucratic regulation. The Federation is concerned that this policy and legislative changes may reduce the protection of important heritage and environmental values.

### **FAHS Fellowship awards – 1913**

The Federation is delighted to announce that Emeritus Professor Alan Powell of the Northern Territory and Associate Professor Stefan Petrow of Tasmania were awarded FAHS Fellowships at the

annual general meeting held in Canberra in August 2013.

Professor Powell has written extensively on the history of the Northern Territory and several of his publications have dealt with north Queensland, northwest Western Australia and Papua New Guinea and have included a biography of a New South Wales politician. He has served on several national bodies.

With the exception of one year, Professor Petrow has been an elected member of the Tasmanian Historical Research Association Committee since 1991 during which time he served as Chair (two years) and Vice-Chair (one year). He has written extensively on the history of Tasmania and has actively promoted it giving papers at international and national conferences, over a hundred talks to local historical societies and groups and regular radio talks. He has also served on four national historical bodies.

### **National Cultural Policy:**

The Federation lodged a submission on its preferences for inclusion in the National Cultural Policy. The Federation advocated preservation of our documentary heritage and the networking of collections electronically throughout Australia. These themes were taken up by the then Minister for The Arts, Hon Simon Crean MP, and included in the Policy. At this stage it is not known what will happen to this policy under the new government.

### **Australian Heritage Strategy:**

The Federation is disappointed that the previous Australian government has not advanced the development of the Australian Heritage Strategy. This project was commenced back at the turn of the century and worked on in various forms with various staff of the Heritage Divisions of the Department of Environment and Heritage (and its successors in title).

### **Heritage advocacy**

The Federation has supported the nomination of historically significant sites for the National Heritage Register viz Thompson Square at Windsor NSW and the Parramatta Female Factory. It has also communicated with state and local governments on the preservation of school buildings, heritage railways and archaeological remains.

Helen Henderson  
Honorary Secretary

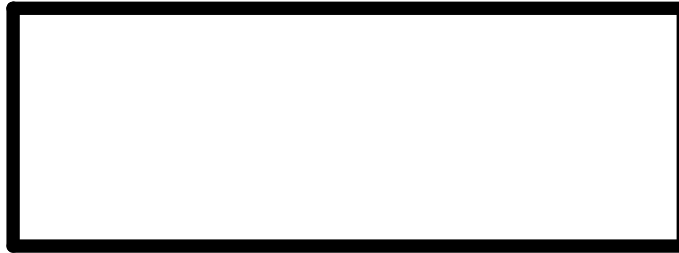
### **New Grants Program**

The Queensland Government through the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) has launched a grants program to conserve and promote Queensland's heritage listed places and historic shipwrecks.

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**IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS**  
**DECEMBER 2013**

**Tuesday 10 December** 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm  
Celebrate the anniversary of the separation of Qld  
from NSW

**Thursday 12 December** Council Meeting

**JANUARY 2014**

**Thursday 9 January** Council Meeting

**Wednesday 15 January** *Bulletin* deadline

**WE WISH YOU A MERRY  
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY  
AND PROSPEROUS NEW  
YEAR FROM ALL OF THE  
PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH  
THE PRODUCTION OF  
THE RHSQ *BULLETIN***

**Contact details:**

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**Subscriptions:**

<b>Ordinary Member</b>	\$66.00
<b>Partner of Member</b>	\$22.00
<b>Junior Member (U18)</b>	\$11.00
<b>Full-time Student (U25)</b>	\$33.00
<b>Affiliated Society</b>	\$55.00
<b>Subscription fee for libraries</b>	\$66.00
<b>Corporate/Institutions</b>	\$275.00
<b>Life membership – purchased after 10 years</b>	\$5,500.00

**Open:**

Tuesday to Friday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm,  
Closed Saturday, Sunday, Monday as well  
as Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Easter

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