



THE RHSQ

# Bulletin

*72 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)



## THE QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE CELEBRATES 150 YEARS OF POLICING

On 1 January 1864 the Queensland Force, comprising approximately 143 employees first began operating under its own legislation. The Force was divided into Metropolitan Police, Rural Police, Water Police and Native Police. Conditions were arduous and police often worked a seven day week, although they were entitled to every second Sunday free. A Police Officer worked a minimum nine hour day and often more when the situation required it. Leave was infrequent. The first Commissioner was D T Seymour who commanded the Force for 30 years.

## President's Report for April

With the year well underway, I want to draw your attention to some of the exciting events the Society is hosting over the coming months. Plans are well underway for our annual Queensland Day Dinner which will be held at the Commissariat Store on Friday 6 June 2014, and professionally catered by Cuisine on Cue. Our guest speaker this year is Hon. Andrew Powell MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection. We thank the Queensland State Archives for their continued support of this event. Please find an invitation enclosed with this newsletter.

Our Annual Seminar will also be held at the Commissariat Store on Saturday 21 June 2014, and this year's theme is *Leichhardt in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. At this stage, the afternoon session will move to the site of the former Women's Prison at Eagle Farm, for an afternoon of archaeology and historical talks. More information to follow in next month's *Bulletin*. This month we are fortunate to host a special lecture by Dr John Moses on *Canon David Garland: From Cloth to Khaki and Back* at the Commissariat Store on Wednesday 23 April from 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm. Bookings can be made through BEMAC by either calling 07 3391 4433 or emailing [admin@bemac.org.au](mailto:admin@bemac.org.au).

On Saturday 26 April, the RHSQ will host our first 'At Home' for 2014 titled *Rumours: Stories from the Great War*. The day will feature historic talks and the launch of our new World War I exhibition, *Call to Duty*, curated by Timothy Roberts in the morning. The afternoon session is intended to be a 'Show and Tell' session, with participants showcasing treasured artefacts from the First World War in an *Antiques Roadshow*-style set-up. We encourage members to take part in this event, so please contact the office if you wish to do so.

I would like to thank the Isis and District Historical Society, the Rockhampton and District Historical Society and Dr Lorna McDonald for their generous hospitality of RHSQ Councillor Che Aberdeen and me during our tour through those regions on the weekend of 28 February to 3 March. Childers and Rockhampton have wonderful museums and their Societies do excellent work in preserving and recording the history of their region – I highly recommend a visit if you are in the area, and have included the contact details for each society and museum for your convenience:

**Isis and District Historical Society** – Contact Scott Stedman (President) on 0400 708 034 for information about visiting the Old Pharmacy and

Childers Historical Village. There is also an excellent Military and Memorabilia Museum located nearby.

**Rockhampton and District Historical Society** – Contact 07 4927 8431. The Society maintains a local and family history collection of research material (photographs, articles, books, newspaper cuttings and artefacts) housed in the former Borough Chambers in North Rockhampton.

Finally, it was with great sadness that we heard of the passing of historian Professor Kett Kennedy in Charters Towers last month. Professor Kennedy dedicated his career to documenting Queensland's mining industry and politics, focusing on North Queensland. At the time of his death he was helping to plan the International and Australasian Mining History Congress to be held in Charters Towers in July 2014. He will be greatly missed.

Interesting events which occurred in April 1914 (taken from Pugh's Almanac 1915): 2<sup>nd</sup> – A destructive hurricane swept over parts of the Darling Downs. Cambooya and Helidon were the hardest hit, with Cambooya suffering damage to the extent of £4000 and Helidon between £5000 and 6000; 10<sup>th</sup> – The Australian Bowling Carnival commenced in Brisbane; 19<sup>th</sup> – Coadjutor Archbishop Duhig laid the foundation stone of a new Presbytery at Stone's Corner, and blessed and opened a new Presbytery at Woolloowin.

Helen McMonagle  
President

## Queensland News for March News From Around the State

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

**Balonne Shire** – The St George RSL is compiling a book listing all the soldiers and nurses from the current Balonne Shire area who served in World War I. Ms Karen Berry, an ex Navy official and member of St George RSL, has downloaded 5,000 scanned documents from the National Archives of Australia website ([www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au)) to commence the project. Two pages are envisaged for each person. Descendants of soldiers and nurses are invited to contact the St George RSL. At the 2013 Christmas function one descendent informed the meeting of an additional two Nolans who enlisted. (*Balonne Beacon* 27 February 2014 p.4)

**Eumundi** – The Eumundi Heritage and Visitor Centre has produced digital stories about Eumundi with photographs which will be an addition to the self

guided leaflet on the town. A Regional Arts Development Fund grant enabled Discover Eumundi to collaborate with radio producer, Hamish Sewell, to interview local people and record their stories. Dick Caplick and Joe Whiting are featured. Eight locations in Eumundi with QR code will be able to be scanned by smart phone. (*Noosa News* 7 March 2014 p.24 including photograph of Eumundi CWA Hall.)

**Gympie** - Two million dollars may not be sufficient to fully refurbish the Mary Valley railway and repair the locomotive for the Mary Valley Rattler (MVHR). This was discussed at a recent meeting of the MVHR members and Gympie Regional Council Mayor, Cr Ron Dyne. The two groups are working together to resolve the issues. (*Gympie Times* 28 February 2014 pp.5,18)

**Richmond** – The area where the Kronosaurus Korner museum stands would have been under 40 metres of water in an inland sea 125 million years ago. The museum was designed to display local fossils from the Cretaceous Inland Sea that covered a large area of inland Queensland. A very recent discovery of a fish, *Cooyoo australis*, on a property 6 km east of Richmond has been recorded in *Alcheringa: a Australian Journal of Paleontology*. The find with several indentations illustrates predator-prey interaction between vertebrates. The museum is a popular heritage tourism attraction. (*Northern Miner* {Charters Towers} 18 February 2014 p.6 including photograph)

**St George** – The Heritage Centre is open again Monday to Friday 9 - 11 am. It had been severely damaged by the floods of January 2011 and was closed until means were found to refurbish it. Historical documents in the centre were removed before the flood reached the two buildings. (Personal visit 1 March 2014)

**Toowoomba** – Sir Anthony ('Tony') Robinson of television 'Time Team' fame will be visiting the Darling Downs in May 2014 as part of Tony Robinson's series called 'Tony Robinson's Tour of Duty for the History Channel. The series will commemorate World War I. The forward reconnaissance group visited the Toowoomba railway station's World War II bomb shelter and the World War I Roll of Honour. Program producer, Matthew Thomason's uncle, Stanley, appears on the Roll of Honour, and his father, Brian, worked in the railways at Toowoomba. Sir Anthony Robinson, Matthew Thomason and Greg Hallam, Queensland Railways historian, appear in a photograph of the Toowoomba railway station Honour Board, published in the *Toowoomba Chronicle* of 28 February 2014 pp.10-11.

**Warwick** – Restoration of the sewing room and nursery in the Historical Society's *Pringle Cottage* are now complete. The floors were also sanded and oiled. These activities were done under a grant from the Southern Downs Regional Council. Volunteers led by John Eastwell are now working on the threshing machine. (*Warwick Daily News* 17 January 2014 p.5 including photograph)

## **Promotion of Member, Patricia Clarke's Article in February 2014 Queensland History Journal on Mary Hannay Foott, Journalist**

Members of the Society will be interested to know that Patricia Clarke's article on Mary Hannay Foott (journalist) in the February issue of the *Queensland History Journal* has been publicised in the Petherick Newsletter, the National Library of Australia's newsletter for researchers and readers, and by email to the Australian Media History list run by Prof. Bridget Griffen-Foley at Macquarie University in Sydney.

## **Canon Garland Memorial Proposal**

A group has been formed to memorialise Canon Garland's involvement in the establishment of Anzac Day. Details are available on: <http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/qld/Heritage-Festival>. The Society published an article in its Journal on this in 1999 – 'Canon David John Garland (1864-1939) as architect of Anzac Day' by John A Moses (Volume 17 No. 2, May 1999 pp. 49-64)

## **Obituary**

### **Kett Howard Kennedy, 1948-2014, historian, writer and academic**

Kett Kennedy, a friend of 38 years and former Professor of History, Head of the Department of History and Politics, and JCU staff member from 1975 to 1997, died at home in Charters Towers, from cancer, on Saturday 22 February 2014.

Kett was a significant supporter of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland from 1977 onwards. He was a mentor, an enthusiast and encourager of historians and the study of history in the community as well as the University. He assisted the Society to obtain very high standard speakers and wrote the paper, 'A journey through Queensland's Northern Triangle Mount Morgan, Chillagoe, Mount Isa' presented as the Clem Lack Oration by Sir James Fooks, Chairman of MIM Holdings Ltd on 22 March

1979 (Volume X No. 4 1978-1979 pages 29-46). Kett travelled down to Childers for the Society's regional conference in August 1995 and gave the after dinner speech at the Bowls Club on the use of oral history in historical research and its pitfalls, especially when that oral history is published. He referred to several early histories focusing on north Queensland and quoted from them and contrasted them with primary sources on the same subject. Kett presented the Clem Lack Memorial Oration on 28 March 1985 on 'Mount Isa's Russian Connection' focusing on the career of Leslie Urquhart (promoter of Mount Isa mine's development), the early years of Mount Isa and Urquhart's Russian connection (Volume XII No. 2, September 1985, pp.183-199).

His final paper to the Society was a joint one with Doug Hunt of James Cook University Cairns Campus, 'Bye bye blackbirder: The death of Ross Lewis' (Volume 19 No. 5, February 2006, p. 823).

Kett succeeded in persuading the Queensland Electoral Commission to change the proposed name for the electorate covering the area from Moranbah, including Charters Towers and up to Atherton from Macrossan to Dalrymple at the last redistribution. His submission describing the characters and careers of John M Macrossan and George E Dalrymple was presented to a lunch-time meeting of the Society by Ruth Kerr on Kett's behalf. The submission was included on the Commission's website.

Another of Kett's significant contributions to the Society was in encouraging history students and graduates of James Cook University to present papers to the Society for publication. He was also a great supporter of the Family History Society in Charters Towers, stimulating them to research cemeteries in their region, eg Sellheim.

Ruth S Kerr

## New Members

Rev Peter Devenish-Meares	Rosalie
Rev Denis and Jenny Conomos	Moorooka
Mike Johnson	Tarragindi

## Museum Report for March

Planning is well and truly underway for the RHSQ's next exhibition, *Call to Duty: Stories from the Great War*. I'd like to thank the many people that have lent their assistance to develop this exhibition, especially several members who have generously shared their stories and collections with me over recent months. The exhibition is the first in a series that the RHSQ will present on Queensland's

involvement in World War I, and profiles the Australian efforts on the war front as well as glimpses of life on the home front.

We invite you to celebrate the opening of the *Call to Duty* exhibit at the RHSQ @ Home open day on Saturday 26 April. The program's theme is *Rumours: Stories from the Great War*, and will feature talks by distinguished professionals as well as a special 'show and tell' session after lunch, where members can share the stories behind their beloved World War I relics. If you are interested in participating in the show and tell session, please contact the Commissariat Store Museum on (07) 3221 4198 or [info@queenslandhistory.org.au](mailto:info@queenslandhistory.org.au) to secure a place, as space is limited. We look forward to welcoming you to the Commissariat Store Museum soon.

Timothy Roberts

## 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 who have a story to tell about a father, brother, mother or grandparents during the time of WWI. 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 WWI
- Stories of nurses, factory workers or soldiers.
- Stories relating to the European communities of WWI, both in Brisbane and overseas.

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

## Research Report for March

The following queries have been attended to this month which has turned out to be very busy:

Abraham Hertzberg, Millingan & Co, wholesale Merchants, Charlotte Street and partner BR Lewin, architect JJ Cohen and builder RE Burton; Judge Harding; Henry McCallum who married Lizzie McCallum on *Boondoon Station* in 1890; Brisbane Central Station and Roma Street and track plans for shunting yards at Roma Street; history of Holman

Street, North Quay and QUT ferry terminals; 75 Winchester Street, Hamilton; Isobel Hannah, Life Member of RHSQ; houses in Chermside, Beenleigh and Bohle; 1864 Fire in Queen Street; the Israelite House of David; poetry of Walter Scott; Daintree photographs; machinery made by John McIlwraith (Bulimba) Pty. Ltd; Wray family arriving Brisbane 1884; sketch of Brisbane from German magazine; and floor plans of heritage buildings in Brisbane.

Jean Stewart  
Honorary Research Officer

## A Request for Historical Items: A letter from Debbie Kruger When the Queen Came to Town



I am writing to tell you about a feature-length documentary film that is being made about the first tour to Australia by Queen Elizabeth II in 1954, which covered a large number of cities and regional towns around the country over a two-month period.

The producers of WHEN THE QUEEN CAME TO TOWN are currently in pre-production on this film and we are reaching out across Australia to find people from all walks of life who were there in 1954, saw the Queen, possibly up close, were involved in community groups, schools or other organisations that helped to make Queen's visit to each town so memorable. We're particularly interested in any home movie footage of the tour or great stories that people are happy to tell.

We are approaching the Royal Historical Society of Queensland to help spread the word about this upcoming film, to help us find the people around the state who have the stories, the memorabilia, the unforgettable moments etched in their minds. What we are hoping you can do to help is post a notice in your e-newsletter or website news section, perhaps on your social media feeds, especially Facebook and Twitter, or if you have a print newsletter coming up

soon, put out the call in there for your members/subscribers. Perhaps you know people who were there themselves, or you might have younger generations whose parents or grandparents were there and have kept mementos.

We know there are a lot of people with great stories and we are inviting them to get in touch with the film's producers. They can do so by writing in with their details to:

The Queen Project Wild Fury  
Level 2A, 737 New South Head Road  
Rose Bay NSW 2029

[Or they can go to the website at www.queentour54.com](http://www.queentour54.com) where there is a special section to send through information about their memories and experiences of the Queen's visit to their town.

If your organisation does not use the internet in this way, perhaps you know of members who have these stories, and who you could put the film producers in touch with. In which case please just write back and let me know, and the production team will get back to you to find out more.

Alternatively members can call or SMS information and contact details to 0435 718 106

Please let me know how you think you can help with this very special outreach program. I hope to hear from you soon.

Thank you and best regards,  
Debbie Kruger

## April Events at the Women's Historical Association

**Display: Wednesday 2nd April to Sunday 1st June, 2014**

**'Journeys': highlighting the travels and achievements of some remarkable women in Queensland's history.**

Part of the National Trust Heritage Festival held from 18th April - 18th May, 2014. Display is open during normal opening hours until Sunday 6 October 2013. House entry fee of \$6 applicable for Non-members.

**Morning Tea and Talk: Thursday 10th - 10:30 am**

**'The History of the Jardine-Vidgen Family of Cape York, North Queensland'** Taking in family history from 1066 to their arrival in the new Colony of Queensland in the 1860s, and the journey to North Queensland.

Guest Speaker: Grahame Jardine-Vidgen, Chieftain of Clan Jardine, Australia. QWHA Members \$10 / Non-Members \$12 (includes morning tea).

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## IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS APRIL 2014

**Wednesday 9 April** 12.30 - 1.30 pm Talk  
 'Reflections and Remembrance on 1864: The  
 beginnings of the Southern and Western Railway at  
 Ipswich.'  
 Greg Hallam

**Thursday 10 April** Council Meeting

**Saturday 26 April @ Home**  
 'Rumours: Stories from the Great War'

## Your Wednesday Speaker for April

Greg Hallam, an historian with Queensland Rail will be speaking on the commemoration of 150 years since work began on building the first section of the Southern and Western railway in Queensland.

### Contact details:

<b>Location:</b>	Historical Museum and Welsby Library at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane
<b>Manager:</b>	Christina Michie
<b>Phone:</b>	07 3221 4198
<b>Fax:</b>	07 3221 4698
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:info@queenslandhistory.org.au">info@queenslandhistory.org.au</a>
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.queenslandhistory.org.au">www.queenslandhistory.org.au</a>
<b>ABN:</b>	34 217 251 028
<b>Postal:</b>	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:

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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