



THE RHSQ

Bulletin

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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



photo: Graeme Nicholson

THE *MARY ANN* STEAM LOCOMOTIVE

This *Mary Ann* is a replica built in Maryborough by William Olds and Sons Pty Ltd and operates each Thursday and the last Sunday of the month at Queens Park, Maryborough. The original was built by John Walker and Co, now EDI Rail, in 1873. The name ‘Mary Ann’ came from the names of William Sim and William Pettigrew’s daughters. The men were both Scottish timber pioneers. A photograph of the original *Mary Ann* is on Page 5 of this issue.

Graeme Nicholson

President's Report

May and June were busy months for Queensland history celebrations, including the NTQ Heritage Festival which concluded with a cocktail function at Wolston House, the Brisbane's Living Heritage Network's annual seminar at the Queensland Museum, and the Queensland Memory Awards at the State Library of Queensland. We were also honoured by a visit from the Honourable Jarrod Bleijie MP, Attorney-General to the Commissariat Store.

The annual Queensland Day Dinner was held at the Commissariat Store on Friday 6 June 2014, and was voted a great success by the 90 guests who attended the evening. The Honourable Andrew Powell MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection was the guest speaker for the evening, and created a great stir of excitement when he announced a new \$5 million grant program from the Queensland Government, which will be shared amongst environment and heritage projects in Queensland. Thank you to our partners for the evening, the Professional Historians Association of Queensland and the Queensland State Archives. The Queensland State Archives also provided beautiful place settings made from scans of plans for the original buildings constructed for the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement, which guests were able to take home. We were very fortunate that Jono Perry, Creative Director of Outdoor Activation for the G20 Cultural Program kindly offered his lighting equipment for use at our dinner: the result was beautiful and gave a setting for the welcoming drinks and canapés. Catering was supplied by our preferred caterers, Cuisine on Cue, who put together a delicious menu featuring Queensland produce and turned the ground floor of the Commissariat Store into professional function space. Thank you to everyone involved in organising the night, especially our superb Master of Ceremonies Denver Beanland.

Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland, and Mr Stuart McCosker invited us to take part in the Government House Open Day on Sunday 8 June 2014. Che Aberdeen, Lee Freeman, Jeff O'Mara and I put together a display of street-scape photographs and panoramas which proved very popular. It was very gratifying to have a number of The Gap State School students give Che and me history lessons about the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement when they spotted the leg shackles that we took for display.

The Supreme Court of Queensland Library unveiled their new exhibition Path to Abolition on Wednesday 18 June 2014 at the Sir Harry Gibbs Legal Heritage Centre. The exhibition showcases

documents from a number of Queensland institutions, as well as the Boggo Road Gaol hanging beam loaned by the RHSQ. It is well worth a visit!

Congratulations go to Dr Kay Cohen on her award of the John Douglas Kerr Medal of Distinction for 2014 in recognition of her long career researching and publishing on the history of government administration, organisations and cultural heritage in Queensland. Congratulations Kay!



Photo: Glenda Scheaffe

Dr Kay Cohen after receiving the John Douglas Kerr Medal of Distinction with Dr Katie McConnel (left) and The Honourable Andrew Powell MP and Mrs Helen McMonagle (right)

Our Annual Seminar was held on Saturday 21 June 2014. The day was a great success, with approximately 130 people attending over the two sessions. The morning session was a different look at research surrounding Ludwig Leichhardt. The speakers for this session were: Elizabeth Yuncken, CSIRO, who spoke about the importance of international collaboration and the important role Leichhardt played in this; Ian Hadwen, who spoke about Leichhardt's Critics; Matt Tesch spoke about the importance of embracing technology to reach out to the wider public, using the examples of the Leichhardt Land website and historical tourism-inspired apps for smart phones; Stephen Sheaffe gave a brief overview of the start of the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement, as a preliminary introduction to the afternoon session. The afternoon session saw almost 100 people attend the talks, archaeological dig and walking tour of Hangar 7. Speakers included Bob Tucker on the future of the site, Dean Prangley on female prisoners in the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement, Rosemary Shields on The Ford Motor Company of Australia Assembly Works, Peter Dunn on the history of Eagle Farm Aviation and Hangar 7.

After afternoon tea, Thom Blake and Richard Robins showed off the archaeological dig they had

prepared, and Ian Walker gave a tour of Hangar 7. It was a very special day, and it was a good opportunity to catch up with so many members. Thank you to everyone who helped with organising the day, and an especial thank you to Bob Tucker and Trade Coast for making the afternoon possible.

Our new interactive displays have been installed by ToadShow, and have been very popular with visitors to the Commissariat Store. The displays will be officially opened on Wednesday 9 July 2014 by Ms Teresa Gambaro MP, Federal Member for Brisbane, in accompaniment to our Wednesday lunch-time talk by Pamela Rushby on her book *The Ratcatcher's Daughter*. I encourage you all to attend this event, as it promises to be a very interesting afternoon.

Pugh's Almanac international events once again overshadowed much of what was occurring in Queensland: 14th – the first patent for liquid fuelled rocket design was granted to Robert Goddard; 20th – armed resistance against British rule began in Ulster, in the north of Ireland; 28th – Austria declares war on Serbia following the assassination of Austrian heir Archduke Franz Ferdinand; 30th – Austrian-Hungary and Russian governments proclaim general mobilisation; 31st – German Emperor Wilhelm II threatens war and orders Russia to demobilise from Austrian border.

Helen McMonagle
President

Queensland News for June News From Around the State

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

Atherton Tableland – Tablelands Regional Council will ask the State Government to help fund three of the region's projects including the Rail Trail continuation from Tolga to Walkamin. An estimated cost of \$166,500 would mean potential state support of \$66,600. (*Atherton Tablelander* 20 May 2014 p.8)

El Arish – Mission Beach area – Fenby Lookout was named after Rupert Fenby, an English migrant who selected land at the bottom of the range in 1910 and farmed there until his death around 1960. He is buried on the property. Initially he received his stores by ship. He could see the arrival of the ship at Dunk Island from a lookout point on Clump Mountain. The site was named Fenby Lookout. In later years he lived as a hermit and bought his groceries from Frank and Marion Rick's store. The Mission Beach Lions Club cleared the Fenby Lookout

site after cyclone Larry (March 2006). It has since grown over. (*Tully Times* – Letter to Editor by Lachie Rick, Wongaling Beach – 15 May 2014 p.4 including photograph)

Gayndah - Gayndah Heritage Rail Trail Group are quietly confident of obtaining State Government approval to acquire the Gayndah railway station, 16 km of track to run a small tourist railway, and two rail corridors. They are proposing a small tourist railway and rail trails from Gooroolba to Mt Lawless Bridge, and Dirnbir to Boomerang. (*South Burnett Times* 20 May 2014 p.5; *Central and North Burnett Times* 22 May 2014 p.8)

Herberton – A successful pioneer weekend was held on 10-11 May at Herberton Village and raised funds for local charities including Queensland Country Women's Association, Lions Club, Herberton-Atherton Historic Railway Line and the Anglican Guild. The owners, the Kimberleys (former owners of Just Jeans) state that the purpose of the village is about reflecting on how things were. They purchased the Village five years ago when it was considered to be in a run down condition. They transformed it into an outdoor museum attracting up to 600 visitors a week. Mr Kimberley stated that he wants to build a beach at the Wild River and has surveyed the stream that runs through the village. The village has a rare 1916 Waterloo Boy John Deere Tractor, a 1937 RB Model tractor and a Model B from 1935, housed in a purpose built tractor shed. The 1916 Waterloo Boy was the first fuel powered John Deere tractor. There is only a very small number of this model left in the world and the Village is seeking to obtain more. (*Atherton Tablelander* 13 May 2014 p. 5)

Maryborough - An avenue of mature Kauri and Bunya pines has been planted along the rail corridor in heritage-listed Queens Park in Maryborough. The project restores the heritage significance of the landscape and the horticultural character of this avenue of trees. Fraser Coast Council Community, Heritage and Family Services Portfolio Councillor George Seymour stated that Council is restoring the heritage significance of the landscape and the horticultural character of this avenue of trees. He said that Queens Park is a heritage gem of which the people can be proud and that Council is conscious of the need to preserve and promote its heritage features. The botanic gardens have been at the heart of Maryborough since the mid 1860s and were gazetted by the Queensland government in October 1873. (*Fraser Coast Chronicle* 16 May 2014 p.8 including photograph; *Maryborough Herald* 22 May 2014 p.13 including historic photograph)

Monto – The North Burnett Regional Council and community groups believe it could provide an avenue for tourism. Although the council filed an expression of interest on behalf of ‘all the community groups that came forward with ideas’, the Burnett Boyne Rail line Preservation Society did not believe the council supported its ideas. The society believed the track from Taragoola to Abercorn could be used for light-rail tourism. The Council did not support the idea. The society filed an independent submission to Queensland Rail. The Preservation Society will look to private enterprise to fund its venture. (*Central and North Burnett Times* 8 May 2014 p.3)

St Lawrence – Near St Lawrence there is a lone grave of Pemmiah Anslow only daughter of William Warner who died on 19 July 1865 aged 13 years and nine months. The grave is 70 metres east of the North Coast Railway Line at 798.431 km, which is about 14 km south of St Lawrence or 22 km north of Ogmoo. There are extensive wetlands which run for about 10 km or more on either side of the railway in this area. Local rumour has it that she fell from a horse and hit her head, although so long after the event you have to wonder if anyone really knows what happened to her. The grave is clearly visible from the track, and would have been noticed by generations of train crew and Sunlander passengers. This area was only starting to be settled in 1865, and there would have been no towns nearby. Her parents would have been either early settlers, workers on one of the early properties or drovers. Her parents buried their 13 year old daughter on a lonely hillside looking out over a lovely view, and then must have returned some years later to erect a headstone which would have had to be transported to the site from either Rockhampton or Brisbane. (Source: Lone grave identification information supplied from Queensland Rail – 16 May 2014)

Childers - The Old Pharmacy at Childers continues to draw many visitors from near and far. Now staffed by volunteers from the Isis District Historical Society on behalf of Bundaberg Regional Council, the Old Pharmacy is truly a treat for all.

Said to be the only pharmaceutical museum in Australia on its original site, the collection dates back to 1894 when Thomas Gaydon began operating a pharmacy on the site. About 90 years later it was set up as a museum by the Isis Shire Council when it was discovered that over the years the pharmacists had kept everything of their predecessors, including superseded equipment, supplies and records.

Upon entering the Old Pharmacy, one is immediately transported a century back in time. Original red cedar mirrored shelves carry hundreds of

products such as Castor Oil, Bates’ Salve, Pink Pills For Pale People and Woods Great Peppermint Cure. Glass display cabinets containing local art works rest upon an intricate mosaic tiled floor. Taking pride of place in the front of shop is the magnificent 1906 National Cash Register.

However, more treasures fill the dispensary at the rear. Volunteers will point out ancient prescription books and ledgers, brass pill presses, mortars and pestles, suppository moulds, hundreds of 1890s glass-stoppered bottles, many containing their original contents (think ‘skin of snake and eye of newt’) as well as an 1836 carboy.



The 1836 Carboy
IDHS photo

Displays also include dentistry as the first pharmacist was also a qualified dentist, as well as photographic, optical and veterinary items. The list is long and there is not enough room in this publication to detail the many items of interest within.

Isis District Historical Society volunteers open the The Old Pharmacy at 90 Churchill Street Childers from Monday to Friday, 9.00 am – 3.00 pm, plus Saturday mornings 9.00 am - 1.00 pm, and they also open the Childers Historical Village in Taylor Street on weekday mornings from 9.00 am to midday.

Indooroopilly - Thomas Park - Bougainvillea Gardens - On 27 May 2014 the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection received an application proposing the entry of the Thomas Park - Bougainvillea Gardens in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place. The department is now assessing the application. Submissions may be lodged by 7 July. Under the Queensland Heritage Act 1992 there is scope to extend the time to make a submission. If you require an extension please contact Sean O’Keefe on 07 3330 5837 before 7 July. Submissions should be lodged at the Department of

Environment and Heritage Protection, GPO Box 2454, Brisbane 4001. email: heritage@ehp.qld.gov.au

OBITUARY

LEONARD ARTHUR ARDILL

(15 March 1931 – 4 April 2014)

Len Ardill joined the Society on 12 May 1987. He attended many lectures, conferences and book auctions. He had also been a Labor Member of State Parliament for the seats of Salisbury (1 November 1986 – 19 September 1992, and Archerfield 19 September 1992 to 13 June 1998); an Alderman of the Brisbane City Council from 1973 to March 1985 and Vice Mayor from 1982 to 1985.

Len grew up on a farm at Ekibin and was educated at Junction Park State School and Brisbane State High School and joined the Queensland Railways in 1948 as a Lad Porter at South Brisbane station. He also served at Bundaberg, Ipswich and Alpha. He resigned from the railways there and returned to Brisbane. He worked in the sand mining industry and then with the gas company CIG. After extensive involvement in community affairs in the Altandi area he was elected as an Alderman on the Brisbane City Council in 1973. Len took an interest in preservation of the environment including Toohey Forest Park. He was also on the Newstead House Board of Trustees. Len was elected to state parliament in 1986 and served on the Library Committee and the Travel Safe Committee. There he utilised all his knowledge of the railways (time tables, locomotives and rolling stock). Len contributed news and views to the Australian Railway Historical Society (Queensland Division) *Sunshine Express* magazine. He was a humble community minded person who served all his constituents and fellow committee people well.

Ruth S Kerr

Enoggera & Districts Historical Society

Open Day 13 July 9.30 am - 4.00 pm

Admission Free

Corner of Wardell & Trundle Streets, Enoggera

For 20 years we have introduced local history to the people of Enoggera and Districts. Help us celebrate this milestone as we commemorate 100 years of history.

New Members

Adam Lees

Justin Shears

Pamela Gough

Cambalum NSW

Mt Gravatt

Gaythorne

David Vann

Minter Ellison

Peter Lavarack

Beverley Lavarack

Hamilton

Brisbane

Buderim

Buderim

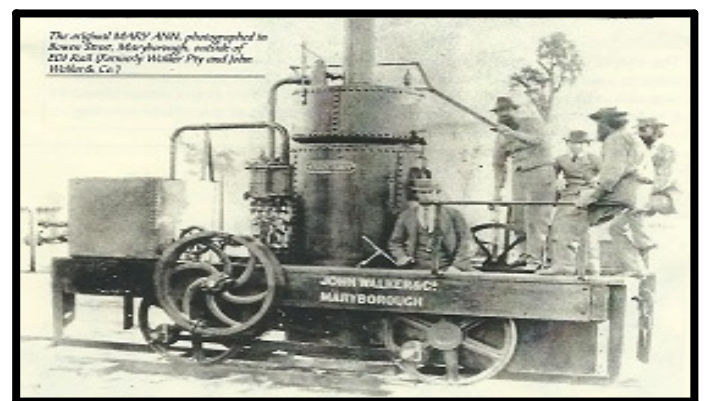
Research Report

Another busy month with the following queries reflecting a great range of projects, which our researchers find very stimulating: Burke and Wills and relationships with the Aborigines; the Old State Library in William Street - building details; Edward Lord family history and connections with Beenleigh sugar plantations and the Kleinschmidt Diary; Pilot Stations on Bulwer Island; in search of Leichhardt and letters by Leichhardt; Aboriginal languages of Brisbane; Captain Mackay's portrait by Oscar Fristrom; buildings in 78 Faust Street, Proserpine; letters of W Low to David Bull; photos of military personnel at the Ekka Showgrounds during World War 2; request for help to find a suitable location for a film set in rural Queensland; obituary for Louise Mamie Harris; details about the life of Mamie O'Keeffe; image of Paul's milk factory South Brisbane; the location of the Chelmsford Challenge Shield; heritage buildings in William Street; Frank Claude Higginson, RAAF, WW2; convict history for an idea for an artwork for William Street; house restorations in Queensland.

Jean Stewart

Honorary Research Officer

The Original *Mary Ann*



The Original *Mary Ann*

(A Maryborough City Whistle Stop Inc photo)

The annotation at the top of the photo reads:
 ‘The original MARY ANN, photographed in Bowen Street, Maryborough, outside of EDI Rail (Formerly Walker Pty and John Walker & Co.)’

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IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS JULY 2014

Wednesday 9 July 12.30 - 1.30 Talk
'The Ratcatcher's Daughter'
Pamela Rushby

Thursday 10 July Council Meeting

Wednesday 16 July - *Bulletin* Deadline

Note. There is no Wednesday talk in August as there is a public holiday for the Exhibition

Your Wednesday Speaker for July

The speaker for the July talk will be Pamela Rushby, the author of 'The Ratcatcher's Daughter' a book set in 1900 at the time of the plague in Brisbane.

Reminder

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the Commissariat Store on 11 September at 6.00 pm. For those wishing to nominate for a position on the Council at the Annual General meeting, a Nomination Form will be included in the August issue of *The RHSQ Bulletin*.

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Subscription fee for libraries	\$66.00
Corporate/Institutions	\$275.00
Life membership – purchased after 10 years	\$5,500.00

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