



THE RHSQ

# Bulletin

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The newsletter of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC,  
Governor of Queensland

President: Dean Prangley

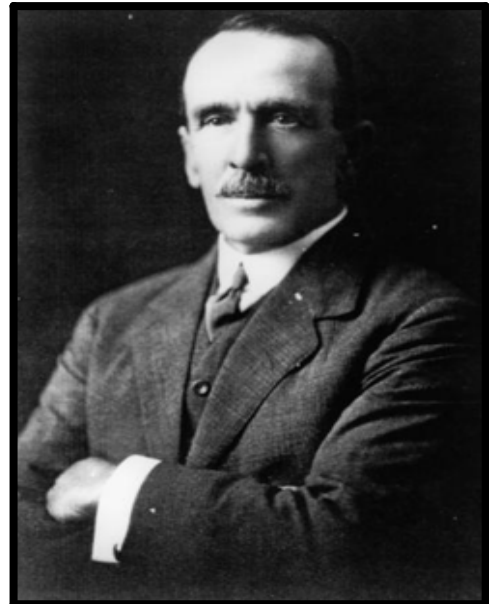
Website: [www.queenslandhistory.org.au](http://www.queenslandhistory.org.au)

## ADOLPH FEEZ AND HIS REVOLVER



RHSQ photo

**The revolver and holster**



State Library of Qld photo 121049

**Adolph Frederick Milford Feez c1910**

In last month's issue of the *Bulletin* David Feez's grandfather was mentioned in the President's report. Above are photos of his grandfather Adolph Frederick Milford Feez and his five chamber, nickel plated revolver and holster, which has been donated to us by David. Adolph carried the revolver during his two years surveying in far western Queensland, which included the survey of Haddon's corner in 1879 and the surrounding area including the Diamantina river. He was second in charge of the expedition and was only 21 years old in 1879. Details of this revolver are:

Make : Hopkins and Allen  
Date : Manufactured 27 May 1879  
Bore : 0.32 inches  
Length : 170 mm, barrel 75 mm  
Load : 5 rounds

There was no safety mechanism as the trigger was hidden in a slot and only moved forward when the hammer was pulled back.

Graeme Nicholson

## President's Report

Dear Members,

Our library research team is busy sifting through mountains of photographs from the RHSQ collection in preparation for producing the next *Lost Brisbane* book which deals with the period from 1945 to 1988.

We need your help to find good clear photographs of the following locations:

### Brisbane City

Majestic Theatre, Queen St (refurbished in 1952 and renamed Odeon) also Metro and St James in Albert St.

Suncorp Theatre, Turbot St.

TC Sound Lounge 1960s Elizabeth Street (Myer Centre)

Piccadilly Arcade Coffee shop, Queen Street

### Suburbs

Department store: Coupon Furniture (Gabba)

Guy Fawkes night bonfires

Drive In Theatres: Capalaba, Keperra, Beenleigh

Suburban picture theatres

Watching the first television in Brisbane, 1950s.

Deliveries: of clothes props, milk, bread, fruit and vegetables, ice, groceries

Waltons man: collected payments door to door

Tankstands associated with a family home.

Woolstore fire Teneriffe - opens way for Teneriffe

Urban renewal precinct.

Cold Stores and Butter Board buildings, now Cruise

Port terminal and Portside

Milton Bowl

Baxters Seafoods, Deagon

Pius XII Catholic Seminary Banyo (now Australian Catholic University)

HMAS Moreton Naval Station at New Farm.

### Brisbane River

'Head of the River' schoolboys rowing at Toowong

River Fountain in the river near SLQ

### Outer Brisbane

Old Hornibrook highway

### Industry

Power Stations: Bulimba

There is more to come but if you could please have a look through your albums and advise the office if you have or know of photos we could borrow and scan digitally for the book. The release is planned for 2016 but we need to collate as much material as we can now to allow for writing captions and descriptive articles.

Refrigerator! We need a benefactor or a syndicate of benefactors to buy a new refrigerator for the kitchen at the Commissariat Store. Unfortunately, the present fridge is close to demise being at least ten years old and is showing it by producing excess

moisture internally and icing up the freezer. If you wish to donate a new one and receive our grateful thanks please advise the office on 3221 4198 or me on 0413 435 735.

New Members' night: The Society will hold its new Members' night on Thursday 21 May and will show the premiere of 'Doing it Tuff', a film of convict Brisbane.

If you have a potential member why not bring them along to see the museum and store and enjoy the company of new and old members.

We are also celebrating the 190<sup>th</sup> birthday of Brisbane on Wednesday 13 May with a talk by John Pearn on the original founder of Brisbane Captain Henry Miller who settled on the North bank in May 1825. Another talk on the lead up to the publication of *Lost Brisbane* will follow.

Hope to see you there.

Thanks for your continuing support of the Society.

Dean Prangley  
President

## Obituary

**Dr Samuel (Sam) Alan RAYNER** died on 15 February 2015. He was the Society's oldest member, having joined on 23 October 1945. He was a life member by purchase and a significant donor to the Society.

Dr Rayner was born in Brisbane in 1921, was educated at New Farm School and the Church of England Grammar School. He completed his Bachelor of Arts degree at The University of Queensland as an evening student, and was awarded the Archibald Scholarship and the Thomas Morrow Prize in 1941. He completed an honours degree and gained his Master of Arts (History) in 1947. His thesis was on the Evolution of the Queensland Labor Party to 1907.

Dr Rayner worked as a teacher at the Church of England Grammar School and Nambour Rural School. Between 1943 and 1946 he served in the Australian Imperial Force as an infantry private and with the Army Psychology Service. On discharge from the Army, he was seconded by the Queensland Department of Public Instruction as a Research Assistant at the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) in Melbourne. He later became President of ACER (1973 - 1979).

Dr Rayner completed his Bachelor of Education (Hons) and Master of Education at The University of Melbourne, with both his theses winning the Cohen Prize. He won a Fulbright Scholarship and undertook

a doctorate in Education from the University of Illinois.

In 1958 he was appointed Assistant Registrar (Academic) at The University of Queensland (UQ) and Deputy Registrar in 1961. He was appointed Registrar in 1970. He made many changes. His extensive work in the collection and analysis of statistical data for the University influenced the review and development of national statistics on education.

During his years at UQ, Dr Rayner worked closely with several Vice-Chancellors including J D Story, Professors Sir Fred Schonell, Sir Zelman Cowen and Brian Wilson AO.

After a lifetime's work in education and university administration, Dr Rayner retired in 1986, but remained as a consultant until 1994. He is the author several books and journal articles on education.

(References: Rayner, Samuel Alan. 'Reminiscences of a Registrar of The University of Queensland 1958-1986.' Unpublished, 1998 referred to on <http://bel.uq.edu.au/sam-rayner>)

Ruth S Kerr  
Honorary Secretary

## Queensland News for March

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

**Angellala** rail bridge south of Charleville was to be demolished on the weekend of 11-12 April 2015 after the semitrailer road accident at the nearby road bridge severely damaged it in 2014. There had not been consultation with local people by Department of Transport. Approximately 100 metres of the 240m long Angellala Creek rail bridge sustained extensive damage from the explosion on Friday night of 5 September 2014. The span of the bridge that was blown sideways and has a removal planned, still hangs from the line. The bridge was built by renowned railway contractor GC Willcocks in 1897. An article from the *Brisbane Courier* 17 April 1897 stated that the Charleville to Cunnamulla railway line was to be the cheapest ever built for the Queensland government at £67,686. The work employed about 350 men. It consisted of one steel span 60 feet long, even steel spans of 40 feet, and sixteen timber spans - 14 that have a length of 26 feet, and two of 20 feet. From the bed to the creek the structure is 40 feet in height and is carried on two solid concrete piers. The bridge had not been changed until the truck explosion. (*Warrego Watchman* 9 April 2015 p.3 including photograph of bridge)

**Buderim** - The Buderim to Palmwoods Heritage Tramway Society have produced a new smaller version of the previous book on the Buderim Tramway the previous one having been sold out. This one has more on the actual tramway and less on the group restoring the old locomotive. It is also a much smaller book. This book is titled, *A Short History of the Buderim - Palmwoods Tramway* and is on sale for \$14.95.

(Australian Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Society, Woodford, <http://www.angrms.org.au/>)

**Gympie** – A plaque honouring the Chinese who settled at Gympie and were buried there was unveiled by Councillor Julie Walker of the Gympie Regional Council in the Gympie cemetery in March 2015. The Gympie Family History Society has organised the research into the Chinese and is publishing a compendium of Chinese stories. The *Gympie Times* on 14 February 2015 (page 15) featured Ah Young (photograph included), Ah Teen, Daan, Ah Yet and Foo Leong. The first non Christian buried in the Two Mile Cemetery was Ah Hong on 6 March 1888. The last person buried there was Devane Singh. Six Chinese were reinterred at the Gympie cemetery from Tozer Park cemetery on 5 March 1926. (*Gympie Times* 14 February 2015 p.15 and 28 February 2015 p.17 including photographs)

**Spring Bluff** – On St Patrick's Day 1942 the 1000 strong Darling Downs 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion left Cabarlah Barracks at 2.00 am and marched to Spring Bluff to board a train bound for Brisbane Exhibition Grounds, Townsville and eventually Milne Bay and Bougainville. Each year members of 25 Battalion gather at Spring Bluff to commemorate the 1942 march. (*High Country Herald* 17 March 2015 p.5)

**Yungaburra** – St Mark's Anglican Church has received a grant from a Heritage Trust for painting the church at a cost of approximately \$8000. (Friends of St Mark's AGM 18 January 2015 Annual Report)

## New Members

John Huth	Wilston
Roger Beams	Carina Heights
Shauna Hicks	Bribie Island
Lorene Wong	Stanthorpe
Roshan de Silva-Wijeyeratne	Teneriffe

## Research Report

We continue to be very busy, and are fortunate to have three capable young women to assist the usual willing volunteer researchers, which is a great help. Inquiries were: in relation to Hangar No 6, at Archerfield Airport; suitable buildings for a student

design project; history of the site of the Police Headquarters in Roma Street; information on Philip Henry Saunders and Adam Johns who did a prospecting expedition to Queensland c1860s; history of Queens Wharf Road and river edge for an architectural student; history of a worker's cottage in Paddington; images of fires in Brisbane with a selective list included; image of Toowoomba Defiance Flour Mill for the USA program 'Finding your Roots'; assistance with history of the Greek Orthodox Community; assistance relating to the social and timber history of Atherton Tableland for a novel, especially in regard to the railway from Atherton to Herberton 1908-1910; history of a house in Upper Lancaster Road, Ascot; history of horse racing in Queensland, information relating to Bankfoot House and a request for images of Coorparoo, and of Narcisse Pelletier for a French publication.

A visitor/member has spent time researching the John Kerr data base; another visited to follow up on her Nanango family history and the stonemason in her family, and an RSL member made two visits researching information from WW1; research of the Journal from 1940 to 1960 in relation to indenture from British India in 1860-70s over two to three weeks; research of the Empire Theatre, Peter Fleming and South Brisbane images; family history research of a soldier arriving from the Maori war in New Zealand to Brisbane in 1866; family history research on Peter Fleming and William Underwood and associated whaling industry; a request for a photograph of Welsby's football team.

Val Donovan  
Honorary Research Officer

## From the Federation

At its February Skype Conference the Council adopted its Triennial Operational Plan for the years 2015/2016 and 2017/2018. Strengthening the Federation's role in actively promoting history matters at the national level is a priority for the next three years. Over recent months, the President, Associate Professor Don Garden has met with the federal Minister for Environment, Hon Greg Hunt and senior officers in the Heritage Department, and has appointments to see the Shadow Minister for Environment, Hon Mark Butler and the Shadow Attorney General who is also responsible for the Arts. He raised with them a number of issues, including the need for government funding to support the work of historical societies.

If you are not already aware of the practical guides the Federation has produced to assist historical

societies with their work, it could be worth your while visiting our website at <http://www.history.org.au>. Topics include [Heritage Identification and Protection \(formerly FAHS Heritage Handbook\)](#), [Heritage Tourism in Australia](#), [Cultural Landscapes Training Manual](#), [Publishing History and Disaster Planning and Recovery](#)

The federal Community Heritage and Icons Grants Program (formerly the Grants for Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations) was to make available small grants for historical societies in States and Territories, but it is no longer operating in that way. This is due to the successful High Court challenge in the case of *William v. The Commonwealth of Australia & Ors* (also known as the 'School Chaplains case'). The judgement was that under Section 61 of the Constitution the Commonwealth did not have the power to enter into the Funding Agreement relating to School Chaplains. The flow-on effect meant that the Government did not have the power to enter into Funding Agreements with historical societies and other community groups.

Don Garden has recently been appointed as a member of the Australian Heritage Council. This is good news for the Federation and historical societies across the country. It is also heartening to learn that the Council has been given a boost in funding which it is using to undertake thematic heritage studies as preparation for developing the National List.

The Federation, through Don Garden, has successfully encouraged the formation of the Parliamentary Friends of History & Heritage. The members of the group are interested federal politicians from across the political spectrum who share knowledge and development of policy related to Australia's vast historical, natural and indigenous heritage.

Helen Henderson  
Honorary Secretary

## Hazel de Berg Award for Excellence in Oral History

Nominations are now open for the 2015 Hazel de Berg Award for Excellence in Oral History. Continuing past practice, the Oral History NSW Committee has appointed a panel of 3 people to adjudicate the award in accordance with the established procedures.

For your information the 2015 panel will be: Dr Sue Andersen (a member of Oral History NSW Committee and PHA NSW) who will convene the panel; Dr Karen George, South Australia (an eminent practitioner of oral history); Dr Alistair Thomson,

Victoria (an eminent historian and distinguished member of the history community)

[Closing date for nominations is 30 June 2015. The award is open to everyone, not only members of oral history associations. All details are on the Oral History Australia website <http://www.oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/page/awards.html> together with a downloadable nomination form.](http://www.oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/page/awards.html)

## Upcoming Events

### Welcome to New Members:

Thursday 21 May 6.00 - 8.00 pm: Come along and welcome our new members. We are delighted to welcome guest speaker Peter O'Reilly of O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat who will speak to commemorate the centenary this year of Lamington National Park. A screening of 'Doing it Tuff in Brisbane' will also be shown by Brisbane Movie Makers. This film focuses on the local stone used to construct the Commissariat Store, as well as other well known landmarks in Brisbane.

### Queensland Day Dinner:

Saturday 6 June at the Commissariat Store. Special Guest Speaker will be the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC and Mrs Kaye de Jersey.

### Annual Seminar

'Queenslanders in World War I' Saturday 20 June from 9.15am. Speakers include: Terry Tolhurst, Archivist for The Brisbane Club who has been preparing extensive biographical material about the 22 soldiers who never returned and the 97 who did; Mike Vitobello from the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages will give details of the WWI records held by the Qld Registrar-General, Qld being the only State which kept such records; Michael White, who served with the Royal Australian Navy and is a past president of RHSQ and Kay Saunders AM, a John Kerr Medallist.

Please note these in your diary - flyers have been sent to all members. We look forward to seeing you at these events.

## **Recommended amendments to the Society's Constitution submitted by Council for Annual General Meeting, 10 September 2015.**

### 1. New sub-clause 19 (c) Council

The Honorary Secretary must be an individual residing in Queensland, or in another State but not more than 65 kilometres from the Queensland border.

### 2. New sub-clause Clause 21 (j) Council meeting

If there is no quorum within thirty minutes after the time fixed for a Council meeting, the meeting is to be adjourned for a time, date and place to be fixed by the President, giving at least 7 days' notice. However, the President may decide that the next Council meeting should be the scheduled Council meeting, if one has been set. This clause does not affect clause 21(b), the calling of a special meeting for a specific purpose.

### 3. Amendment to clause 21 (b)

In the first line insert after Council 'for a specific purpose'

4. Amendment to clause 30(c) Funds and Accounts after cheque delete semi-colon and insert after cheque ', or electronic fund transfers as authorised by Council.'

Clause 30(f) end of second sentence 3<sup>rd</sup> line delete full stop and insert ', or approve electronic fund transfers as authorised by Council.'

4<sup>th</sup> line after cheque insert ', or approve electronic fund transfers as authorised by Council.'

Notes re amendments

1. This clause is included in the State Government's model constitutional rules.

2. This clause is taken from the Annual General Meeting provisions clause 15(f). Currently the Constitution is silent on this matter as far as the Council is concerned.

3. It amends the provision for a special meeting for specific purpose in line with amendment 2.

4. This amendment is required because the Society's bank now requires certain transactions to be in electronic form. All other provisions of this clause concerning financial transactions remain.

Any member who has concerns or issues they wish to discuss concerning the above amendments are invited to contact Denver Beanland telephone 3217 7229 or email: [denverbeanland@hotmail.com](mailto:denverbeanland@hotmail.com)

## **Important Announcement**

### **Visit to the 'Dig Tree' 21-24 June 2015**

Tour from Thargomindah to and from Innamincka by coach with TravelWest.

Cost: accommodation and meals at Innamincka, \$1,000 per person (single sup \$100 – number limited), payable to RHSQ.

Tourists will meet TravelWest at Thargomindah. Travel to and from Brisbane is available per Rex Air (from approximately \$500 per person, flight booking and payment the responsibility of the individual). NB Non-smokers only. As numbers are strictly limited please do not send money or book flights until your tour registration has been confirmed by RHSQ: telephone 07 3221 4198.

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**IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS**  
**MAY 2015**

**Wednesday 13 May** - Talk 12.30 pm  
The significance of Founders' Day  
John Pearn  
**Thursday 14 May** - Council Meeting  
**Friday 15 May** - *Bulletin* deadline

**YOUR WEDNESDAY SPEAKER FOR**  
**MAY**

**John Pearn, of the RHSQ Council, will explain the significance of our new Founders' Day. Each year in May the Society will commemorate the arrival in Brisbane of Lieutenant Henry Miller, Commandant of the Moreton Bay Penal Colony, who stepped ashore on the North Bank of the Brisbane River in May 1825.**

**Also, to celebrate the National Trust Heritage Festival, authors of that runaway success, *Lost Brisbane*, will speak about their latest endeavour and how you may be able to help them.**

**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>
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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

**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.**