



THE RHSQ

# Bulletin

*74 years of continuous publication*

AUGUST 2016 No. 810

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)



## PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE JOHN KERR MEDAL PRESENTATION NIGHT

On the left is a photograph of Ann McGrath, winner of the John Kerr Medal of Distinction for Research and Writing of Queensland and Australian History. Below is a photograph of: from left, Mrs Kaye de Jersey; HE The Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland; Mrs Christine Prangley; and Mr Dean Prangley President of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland, who were present on the night.

Photographs by Lee Freeman



## President's Report

Dear Members,

Thank you for renewing your membership so promptly. The Society depends very much on your support to keep the doors open.

As advised last month we are planning the very special 'Riverfire' event for Saturday 24 September for members, families and friends. We will open the Commissariat Store from 5.00 pm, with drinks and nibbles served to start, followed by hot pizza at 6.30. Children will be catered for with soft drinks and juice. Tables and chairs will be set up in the yard looking on the river for a grandstand view of the fireworks. Please talk to your friends and family and make this a special night. Bookings are essential for catering purposes so please let Helen know by email on [info@queenslandhistory.org.au](mailto:info@queenslandhistory.org.au) or phone 3221 4198. Costs including food and drinks are members \$25.00, guests \$30.00 and children \$10.00. Please see the attached flyer for payment options and more information.

We are reintroducing the history bus tours again and the next planned trip is in February next year to Warwick and surrounding areas. We will be visiting RHSQ affiliated members at the Warwick and District Historical Society, Glengallan Homestead and other historical sites in the area. We hope to organise at least two bus tours each year to places of historic interest. Details of the Warwick tour will be posted in the next *Bulletin*.

Congratulations to Dr Margaret Kowald who has been recommended by the Awards Committee as a Fellow of the Society and Beth Johnson who has been recommended for a MacGregor medal. Both these volunteers have spent thousands of hours working for your Society in library and publications and have helped create the 'Lost Brisbane' books.

*Lost Brisbane 2* is now at the printers and represents Brisbane and surrounding areas from 1940 to 1990 and features over 450 photographs most of which are unique and not previously published. We will have the books for sale at the Commissariat Store before Christmas.

Thank you all for being part of the Society.

Dean Prangley  
President

### THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND *BULLETIN* AUGUST 2016

#### THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND Proposed Amendment to Constitution for Annual General Meeting on 29 September 2016

The Society's Council proposes the following amendment to the constitution of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland at the Annual General Meeting, on Thursday 29 September 2016:

**Clause 15 (a) second line amend 'three months' to read 'five months'**

**Reason:** This will allow the Annual General Meeting to be held within five months of the end of the financial year, which will be by the end of November rather than the end of September. The extension is required to allow our auditors extra time to audit the financial accounts each year, which they do at no cost, as the short time period is proving difficult for the auditors to meet.

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

### THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 29 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 6.00 pm AT THE COMMISSARIAT STORE, 115 WILLIAM STREET, BRISBANE

#### AGENDA

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting
2. Consideration of the Annual Report of the President

3. Consideration of Audited Annual Financial Statement
4. Election of the President, one Vice President, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, ten Councillors
5. Appointment of Patron of the Society
6. Appointment of an Honorary Auditor
7. Consideration of recommendation by the Society's Council of an Amendment to the Society's Constitution. Clause 15 (a) second line, amend 'three months' to read 'five months'
8. Consideration of the recommendation by the Society's Council that Dr Margaret Kowald be elected as a Fellow of the Society and that Mrs Beth Johnson be awarded a MacGregor Medal
9. Any other business

Ruth S. Kerr  
Honorary Secretary

## Fellowship

The Society's Council has recommended that Dr Margaret Kowald be awarded a Fellowship under Rule 35 of the Constitution, for her research, writing, editorship of *Queensland History Journal*, publications including her role in two Lost Brisbane books.

### Dr Margaret Kowald

- member of RHSQ since July 1992;
- editor of the *RHSQ Journal* since February 2007 (subsequently renamed *Queensland History Journal*);
- member of Publications Committee and has done detailed negotiations with Printer about price and size including introduction of colour photographs and maps into the *Queensland History Journal*;
- member of the founding committee for the John Douglas Kerr Medal of Distinction for Research and Writing Queensland and Australian History;
- an author of *Lost Brisbane and surrounding areas 1860-1960* and *Lost Brisbane 2 and surrounding areas: the later years*; and
- professional historian and author of several books.

## MacGregor Medal

The Society's Council has recommended that Mrs Beth Johnson be awarded a MacGregor Medal under Rule 35 of the Constitution, for her role in the Research and Library Team over ten years.

### Mrs Beth Johnson

- joined the society in May 2003;
- trained as a teacher at Kelvin Grove Teachers College
- wrote mathematics books for children for Longman Cheshire;
- commenced as an Honorary Research Officer in 2005 after she had finished her history book on Robert Cribb;
- has prepared three Book Auction Catalogues for the Society;
- extended the index to the society's *Journal*, managed the rearrangement of the several thousand vertical files (subject, district and families) in the Society's Library, rationalized the Society's serial collection, and catalogued photographs; and
- published a paper on Fanny Trundle in February 2011 issue of *Queensland History Journal*.

## New Members

Wesley Giles	Woodridge
Paul Crouch-Chivers	Brisbane

## THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND NOMINATION FORM

For the election of the President, Vice President, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, 10 Councillors at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 29 September 2016 at 6.00 pm at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane.

Nominations are required to be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary on or before 15 September 2016.

Nominations must be signed by 2 (two) financial members of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland and be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee, who must be a financial member.

-----  
We nominate .....

for the office of .....

Signed .....

Signed .....

If elected I agree to act in the position of:

.....

Signature .....

-----

### Queensland News

#### News from around the State

(Collected by Ruth Kerr from personal Queensland contacts, Affiliated Societies, Newspapers and Department of Environment and Heritage Protection official notifications)

**Crow's Nest** - Munro's Tramline, which linked Hampton with the timber districts of Palm Tree, Ravensbourne and Bunkers Hill, is accessible by car and is being revived for tourists. A new interpretive sign system guides those visiting a three km section of the line, starting from the Perseverance reserve and proceeding west. Councillor Joe Ramia and Barry Munro, a descendant of one of the Munro brothers who built the railway and ran the Palm Tree timber mill, unveiled one of signs at a function attended by more than 40 people on 5 June. The Munro Tramway Historical Group obtained a grant of \$3860 from Toowoomba Regional Council to place the signs at locations accessible to tourists or walkers. Each sign has maps of the line and a recorded message about the tramway.

Archibald and Duncan Munro, who were store owners in Toowoomba, built the first 12 km of the tramway in 1896-7, linking Hampton (on the Toowoomba to Crow's Nest rail line) to their timber mill at Palm Tree. Duncan was Chairman of the Highfields Shire Council and Archibald was Mayor of Toowoomba. It was a horse drawn tramway carrying sawn timber to Hampton. In 1903-4 they extended the line 2.5 km towards Ravensbourne where they collected logs from a one mile long steel cable that hauled the logs up the escarpment. They then bought a Shay steam locomotive from USA (No.906 of 1904), and a second loco was bought in about 1908 (No.2097) after they started extending the two-foot-six-inch gauge rail line a further 11.5 km east to Bunkers Hill where they loaded logs.

### The Shay Locomotive

(photo by Greg Shurn)



The Hampton-Esk Road now passes Bunkers Hill. This expansion took place from 1907 to 1915. The settlement at Palm Tree included the timber mill, 20 workers' houses, a store, butcher shop and school (at which the teacher arrived by ganger's trolley, and which doubled as a community hall for dances and meetings). The Palm Tree mill was closed in 1936.

In 2007 the Crows Nest Shire Council established a 'great short walk' (about 1.5 km) in the area, and the Ravensbourne Landcare Group, with Australian Government grants in 2010 and 2011 cleared lantana and other feral weeds from the 14 acre Perservance Reserve and discovered remnants of the tramway formation in the process. Since then a number of residents formed the Munro Tramway Historical Group, and have revived the 'great short walk' and have doubled the length of the walk to 3 km. It is possible that in the future they may establish further short walks on accessible sections of the former tramway. (*High Country Herald*, Highfields, 14 June 2016 p. 1 and John Kerr, *Tall Timbers Queensland*, Light Railways Research Society of Australia, Melbourne, 2009, pp. 50-55)

**Miva:** Local historians Jennifer Nahrung and Kathy Dakin have nominated the Dick Abram Bridge as a Heritage Wonder in the Architecture/Built Environment section of the National Trust's publication to celebrate G150 in 2017. It was entered on the Queensland Heritage Register in 1992 for its role in Queensland's transport history. It is the only road/rail bridge still in use in Australia, though the last train ran in 2008. Completed in May 1886 for the Kilkivan railway, the bridge opened up an important transport route to the South Burnett. (*Gympie Times* 2 July 2016 p. 9)

**Tolga** – Originally known as Martin Town, Tolga was the centre of the Atherton Tablelands in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. It became a staging post for approximately 100,000 Australian Army troops during World War II. The railway station, built in 1903, is now the museum which holds maps of the military bases in the district. (*Tablelander* 31 May 2016 p.22 including photograph)



Qld Government Photo

## Research Report

The research team is sporadically busy, but there is much to do for the volunteers helping Claire Stewart, our Thursday Manager/Librarian, prepare the collection for removal towards the end of the year. They are: Beth Johnson, Elizabeth Nunn, Vanah Montgomery, and Sarah Bartels. Their assistance is much appreciated. While this is taking place, Dr Kay Cohen and I take care of the research activities with the help of our worthy photography expert, Lyndsay Smith. We have had a request for information in relation to the Commissariat Store having ever been a quartermaster store in 1967, and for information on Queensland's first flag. There have been requests for copies of digital images from our collection, one of Sir Wylie Norman for Government House, and one of William Patterson MLA in relation to the history of the Sherwood Arboretum. There has also been a request to display an image of Evelyn Harris for the Connecting Threads project on Newstead House.

A visitor to the Welsby Library has made use of the hard copies of the *Queensland Government Gazette* seeking information on Queensland's Treasury bank notes, and a couple requested images of the Chelmer, Indooroopilly area with emphasis on the opening of the Walter Taylor Bridge which proved successful for both the clients and the research team who are always delighted when their assistance is appreciated.

Val Donovan  
Honorary Research Officer

Royal Historical Society of  
Queensland PO Box 12057 Brisbane,  
George Street QLD 4003  
RHSQ Bulletin: PP100004098  
RHSQ Journal: PP100004097

**PRINT  
POST**

**POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA**



### IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

#### AUGUST 2016

**There is no talk in August**  
**Thursday 11 August - Council Meeting**  
**Monday 15 August - *Bulletin* deadline**

### BUS TOUR IN 2017

We are reintroducing the history bus tours again and the next planned trip is in February next year to Warwick and surrounding areas. We will be visiting RHSQ affiliated members at the Warwick and District Historical Society, Glengallan Homestead and other historical sites in the area. We hope to organise at least two bus tours each year to places of historic interest. Details of the Warwick tour will be posted in the next *Bulletin*.

#### Contact details:

<b>Location:</b>	Historical Museum and Welsby Library at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane
<b>Manager:</b>	Helen Brackin
<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

#### Bulletin articles only:

<b>Editor A/Editor</b>	Dr Graeme Nicholson Marjorie Shackleton
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:info@queenslandhistory.org.au">info@queenslandhistory.org.au</a>
<b>Phone:</b>	07 3221 4198
<b>Fax:</b>	07 3221 4698.
<b>Postal:</b>	RHSQ, PO Box 12057, Brisbane George Street, 4003

#### 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

<b>Open:</b>	Tuesday to Friday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm, Closed Saturday, Sunday, Monday as well as Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Easter
<b>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.</b>	