



THE RHSQ

Bulletin

74 years of continuous publication

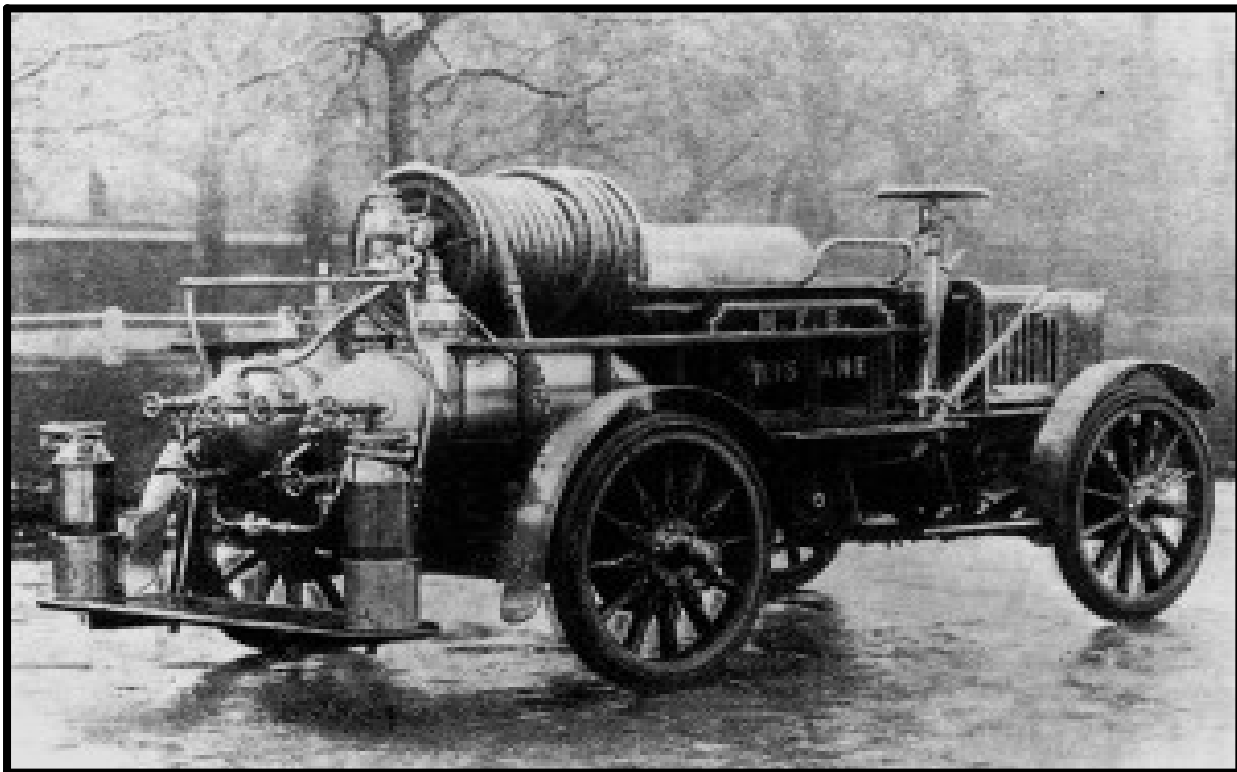
DECEMBER 2016 No. 814

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



Queensland State Library photo

The Merryweather Chemical Fire Engine, Brisbane, 1905

Brisbane's first motorised fire engine arrived in 1905. Its virtues are here extolled in *The Queenslander*:

The engine is 24 hp, and is capable of running twenty-five miles an hour on the level. It carries eight men and 600 ft of ordinary canvas hose, standpipes, and branch pipes, besides two chemical cylinders (each with a capacity of thirty-five gallons of liquid), and 200 ft of chemical hose. The water in the cylinder is impregnated by bi-carbonate of soda and sulphuric acid, and is mixed instantaneously on arrival at a fire, thus generating a pressure of about 120 lb to the square inch. The fluid is then forced up the chemical hose right to the nozzle, and held there by a stop-nozzle, so that when a man reaches a fire, all he has to do is to open a tap, and this chemical fluid, which is stated to be twenty times more efficacious than water, is ejected.

Unfortunately this engine suffered from mechanical problems and was not able to be put into service for several years. The purchase of this engine perhaps signalled the end for horse-drawn fire engines but they would still be required for some time yet. Ipswich Fire Brigade obtained a motor fire vehicle in 1908 and the Toowoomba Fire Brigade purchased their first motorised engine in 1915. This appliance did not have a pump and was used to carry men and equipment. It was so low powered that boys on bicycles were able to pass the machine.

Simon Miller QSL

President's Report

Dear Members,

With the year ending on a high note for your Society I would like to thank you all for continuing your membership and support which is vital to the work we undertake. The next twelve months will be interesting to say the least, with demolition work starting on the various buildings near to us. Access will be as usual to the Commissariat so please continue to come to our functions and lectures throughout 2017.

We celebrate Separation Day on 10 December with Christmas drinks and the launch of *Lost Brisbane 2* by our patron and Governor His Excellency Paul De Jersey AC. Timing is from 6.00 pm and the cost is \$45 for members and \$50 for guests.

Next year on Saturday 18 February we plan a one day bus trip to Warwick. The tour will include morning tea at the restored *Glengallan* homestead with a guided tour followed by a historical tour of the beautiful stone buildings of Warwick and a visit to the Warwick historical museum. Lunch will be included in the cost at one of the top restaurants in Warwick. We are still in the planning stage but expect the timing to be from 7.30 am and home by 5.30 pm. Cost for the trip including the bus fare, all entry fees, morning tea, lunch and the historical tour is \$80.00 per person. If you are interested please let the office know on 3221 4198 or email info@queenslandhistory.org.au.

If you know of anyone tired of playing golf, bridge, bowls et cetera who wants a stimulating unpaid position as a volunteer at the Commissariat store please let us know. We need people to guide tourists, help with administration and library, museum work and marketing. Please help if you can.

Finally I wish you all a very happy Christmas and look forward to your participation in your Society in 2017.

Best regards

Dean Prangley
President

Queensland News

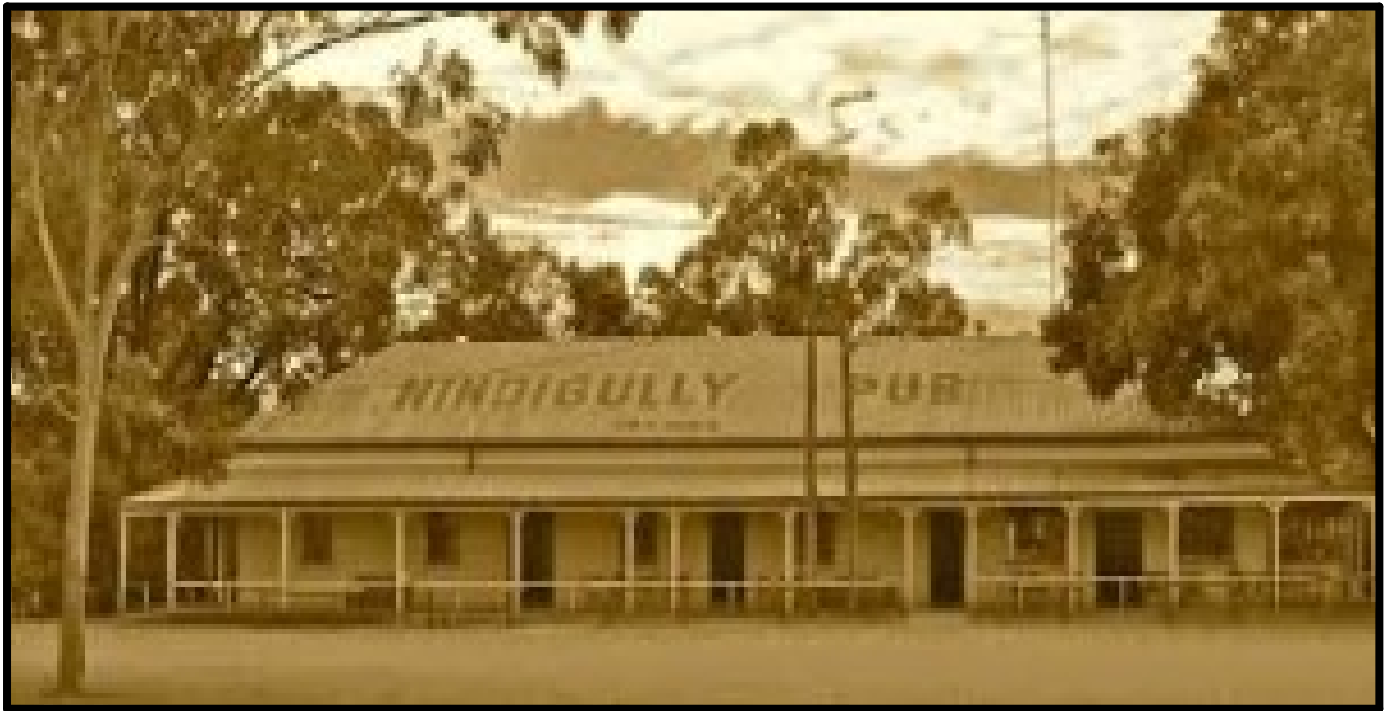
(Collected by Ruth Kerr from personal Queensland contacts, Affiliated Societies, Newspapers and Department of Environment and Heritage Protection official notifications)

Gympie – On 9 October Church of Christ celebrated 130 years of activity in Gympie and Monkland. It was founded on 8 August 1886 with a meeting in the home of Mrs Cane of Horseshoe Bend. The Drum and Fife Hall was utilised next for services and then they moved to the Oddfellows Hall. Land was acquired on Crescent Road for a church building and with interest free loans it was opened on 6 August 1887 with a manse as well. The building is now used by a theatre group. The Eel Creek church built in 1907 was moved in to Gympie for a Sunday School. A church was built at Monkland in 1930 and it now forms part of the Gympie and District Historical Museum. A new church was built on the corner of Horseshoe Bend Road and Tucker Street and opened in July 1959. The Church of Christ was involved in the establishment of the Cooloola Christian College and maintains its connection. (*Gympie Times* 22 October 2016 p. 17 including five photographs)

Herberton – Tablelands Regional Council staff have been archiving old Herberton Shire Council records left in the old Shire Council office in Herberton. Mining Museum volunteer, Mary Searston and Cr Kate Eden who has her office in the building have been perusing the registers. The registers comprise rate books dating from 1898 to 1903. The books will be archived in climate controlled surroundings where they will be accessible to researchers. The old shire offices will be opened to the community for hire. (*Tablelander* 18 October 2016 p. 10 including photograph)

Kin Kin -- Part of the original farm owned by Alan Grady from 1929 to 1976 has been bought by Tom and Lyn Grady of Grady Real Estate, Gympie. They have bought a property of 6.4 ha which has the original house on it. Tom is one of the 14 children of Alan and Vera Grady. The weather board exterior with pine tongue and groove interior house has been renovated a number of times. A Grady family reunion was recently held there. (*Gympie Times* 24 September 2016 p. 8 including four photographs)

Nindigully – The hotel known as *The Gully* near Thallon is to be sold. It is said to be the oldest operating hotel in Queensland, having opened in 1864. The owners, Debbie Lee and Steve Burns are selling because of his illness. Managers presently operate the hotel. Current licencees have held the license since 2002. They are the 21st licencees of the hotel. *Nindigully Hotel* has hosted Country Music Festivals, Pig Races and the McGrath Foundation events. (*Balonne Beacon* 15 September 2016 p. 3 including photograph)



Nindigully Pub Photo

The Nindigully Pub

Tenterfield Railway Station in northern New South Wales – An integrated rail system with Queensland and the southern colonies was the dream of the New South Wales Premier, Sir Henry Parkes, and the Northern Tablelands line opened to Tenterfield on 10 October 1886 and was extended to Jennings on the Queensland border; and Queensland extended its 3 feet 6 inches gauge line to Wallangarra. A line ran across the colonial border for trans-shipping of freight. The railway opened to Tenterfield on 10 October 1886 and the last train ran on 24 October 1989. The local Railway Preservation Society is preserving the railway traditions for travellers through the town. The station was opened by Lord Carrington, Governor of the New South Wales colony. Ten trains came on the day and 67 were stated to have arrived and departed in the next few days. Tenterfield station was designed under the authority of John Whitton. The stone and brick buildings feature elaborate gables with flanking pavilions, a brick support platform. Most of the original detail has been retained including internal fittings. (Warwick *Daily News* 29 June 2016 p. 10 including photograph)



Wikipedia Photos

Tenterfield Railway Station

Urandangi – *Headingly* station north of Urandangi celebrated its centenary in September 2016. It has been owned by the Australian Agricultural Company (AAC) for 100 years. Many past employees and families

visited the property for the celebration. Boulia Shire Council Mayor Rick Britton attended the centenary function and commended the AAC on its sustainability role in agriculture. (*North Queensland Register* 15 September 2016 p. 12 including photograph)

Warrill View on the Cunningham Highway – The Warrill View Show and Pony Club Hall will soon be demolished. It is 76 years old but is now unsafe because of infestation by white ants. The building is two storeys and is 23 X 13 metres. An estimated \$10,000 worth of Oregon timber beams attracted a buyer. The building was opened on 1 May 1940. It is on a reserve administered by trustees. (*The Fassifern Guardian* 19 October 2016 pp. 1 and 2 including three photographs)



**Warrill View Show and Pony Club Hall before planned demolition
Photograph taken by Ruth Kerr on 25 October 2016**

Warwick – The Warwick Rodeo was held in the last week of October. Buckjump competitions were recorded as long ago as 1857 at *Canning Downs* station. George Leslie boasted of his ‘breaker’, Scotsman Rory McLeod. A competition was held between RC Haley’s Mexican horse breaker and McLeod on a wild grey. A wager of £50 was set between Haley and Leslie. The Mexican was thrown from the grey and Leslie presented the grey horse to McLeod. (*Warwick Daily News* 25 October 2016 pp. 3-4 including photographs)

Notices

Please note the following:

- **Would anyone have, or know of, a photograph of the Gympie Gold Nugget *Perseverance*, probably from 1868, before it was purchased and melted down by the Sydney Mint?**
- **There will be no talk in DECEMBER.**
- **The launch of *The Curse of Mungana* is now scheduled for the morning of Saturday 25 February at RHSQ.**

Research Report

This month, research activity focused mainly on photographs and information about them: re Captain Wyborn; Native Mounted Police; SS *Kanowna* and Thursday Island; Newstead House; interiors of late 19th Century homes; the Davey family; Brisbane in 1883; Harry Strongitharm Wilkinson's painting of T Welsby's home, 1906; Moreton Bay's first wedding; and information on Italian civilian internees in World War Two.

We were very pleased to receive several donations to the Library collection from:

Ailsa Welch – documents and 3 photographs relating to Captain Wyborn;

Bob Abnett – digital copy of 1842 map of Brisbane;

Elizabeth Nunne – 2 booklets re opening of the Queensland Government Executive Building in 1971.

The research team has also finalised a commission for a short history of the Executive Building for the Building's upcoming Closing Day event.

Kay Cohen

Honorary Research Officer

New Members – October 2016

URBIS	BRISBANE
Katherine Roberts	GREENSLOPES
Philippa Stanford	AUCHENFLOWER
Cameron Singer	KENMORE
Paul Holland	ASPLEY
Colin Hambrecht	ARANA HILLS
Colin and Marilyn Brackin	NAMBOUR
Leone Stanford	AUCHENFLOWER
Dorothy Carroll	BRISBANE

New Members – November 2016

Dennis Kennedy	TAIGUM
Claire Steward	FITZGIBBON

Obituary

Dr Geoffrey Swan OAM

Regrettably, Dr Geoffrey Swan, died suddenly on 18 September. Throughout his life, education was his passion. Born in 1927, he attended Humpybong State School, situated on the Redcliffe peninsula. In 1941, he won a scholarship to attend Brisbane Grammar school. After having passed the Junior Public Examination (Year 10) he received a two and a half year Junior Teacher scholarship. He attended Queensland Teachers College located at Kelvin Grove. In 1946 he became an Assistant teacher at Wilston State School in Brisbane, followed by appointments to one teacher schools at Caffey, Carmilla West and Verrierdale. He then taught at Churchill State School on the outskirts of Ipswich followed by opportunity classes at Ipswich, Petrie Terrace, Rockhampton and Sandgate. He became a student of Fred and Eleanor Schonell.

In 1963 he became Head Teacher of what was then known as the State School for Spastic Children at New Farm. He remained at New Farm for ten years where he was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study the education of children with cerebral palsy in Europe, the United Kingdom and the United States. In 1973, he became an Inspector of Schools (Special Education). He served on numerous Department of Education Boards and Councils – with many related to Special Education. In 1987 he retired from full-time employment. In the same year he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to children with special needs.

In 1997, he completed a PhD thesis titled 'From Segregation to Integration: The Development of Special Education in Queensland'. More recently, Geoffrey wrote a MA thesis: 'The Rise and Demise of the Inspector of Schools in Queensland', which was completed in 2014. Dr Geoffrey Swan, aged 87, became QUT's oldest ever graduate. Sadly, Geoffrey's wife, Doris, also an accomplished educationalist, had died several years earlier. Geoffrey's friendship, enthusiasm and humour will be missed.

Dr Keith Moore – QUT Faculty of Education

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IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS
DECEMBER 2016

Thursday 8 December - Council Meeting
Saturday 10 December - Separation Day
and Christmas Cocktails together with
the launch of *Lost Brisbane 2* from 6.00 pm
The deadline for the next Bulletin is Sunday
15 January 2017

Special Notice

**We have been advised that William
 Street and Queens Wharf Road will be
 closed from 1 January 2017**

Contact details:

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Subscriptions:

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