

THE RHSQ

Bulletin

75 years of continuous publication JUNE 2017 No. 819 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

# THE STORE IS OPEN!



The Royal Historical Society of Queensland continues to operate as usual at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane, even though the construction of the Queens Wharf Brisbane Integrated Resort has commenced. The Society is open - Tuesday to Friday from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

## **President's Report**

Dear members,

The *Ties that bind* seminar held on Saturday 22 of April was a most successful event and attracted over 90 attendees. The Lebanese Historical Society and the RHSQ combined to present a most interesting group of speakers from Australian Lebanese families many of whom are third and fourth generation. Many arrived with no money and no English to start a new life in Australia and eventually with a lot of determination made a success of their lives. I was reminded of how many businessmen and women I knew who had Lebanese as origin. After the talks we all enjoyed a feast of traditional Lebanese food.

I hope we can do more of these seminars with other Societies whose members families came and contributed to the Australia we know today. The Lebanese display of fine needlework, clothing and other interesting artefacts can be seen in our museum.

Next month on the 14 June our Wednesday talk is by Judy Nissen on the Chermside Garden Settlement.

Recently the Society received bequests from two long term members who sadly died last year. We are very grateful to be named in their wills and the significant funds received will assist us in continuing our work in the preservation and recording of Queensland history. Please consider the RHSQ in your will. Thanks for your continued support of the Society.

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)

**Cairns** – A historic Torres Strait pearl lugger, *Antonia* A99 has been restored for use as a floating museum. It was built in Brisbane in 1956. Solwata Club director oversaw the restoration. Cairns Work for the Dole participants assisted in the work. (*Cairns Post* 15 April 2017 p.29)



ABC photo

#### THE PEARL LUGGER ANTONIA A99

**Kuranda** – Barnwell farm is to be part of the Kur-World and Barnwell Farm tourist development at Kuranda. Barnwell farm was first selected by Scotsman, John Hamilton in 1899. He was one of the first coffee growers in the Myola area. He grew maize, coffee, potatoes and tropical fruit. The selection (Portion 131V Parish of Formartine, County of Nares) was freeholded in January 1900 with a good house, barn, fowl house, half a mile of two rail fencing and large area cleared, all valued at £189. Hamilton died and the land was offered for sale in 1903. P Person bought the land next. The Barnwells established a dairy in 1936 and later

converted to cattle and sugar cane. (*The Kuranda Paper* April 2017, issue 286, p. 15; Queensland State Archives – ID71706, LAN/DF1065, Selection 415)



The Kuranda Paper photo

#### **AERIAL PHOTO OF BARNWELL FARM**

**Toowoomba** – Approx 3000 people visited the Toowoomba railway station on the occasion of the celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the railway arriving in Toowoomba in 1867. A Festival of Rail was held for the occasion. Approximately 700 welcomed the arrival of the Southern Downs Steam Railway train hauled by C17 No 971 and then the ARHS train from Roma Street hauled by 1089. There were several presentations throughout the day- about the Honour Board, etc and Greg Hallam of Queensland Rail gave a talk on the construction of the Main Range railway in the conference room at Toowoomba station - standing room only. Greg has done extensive research on the topic in his University thesis work and in association with 'two John's' (Knowles and Kerr). (Email from Greg Hallam 30 April 2017)



TOOWOOMBA RAILWAY STATION



Qld Government photo THE HONOUR BOARD AT TOOWOOMBA RAILWAY STATION

**Warwick** – The Southern Downs Regional Council has recently been conducting a consultation process to ascertain whether the Leslie Park Centenary Memorial Gates returned to *Glengallen Homestead*. They were removed from there by the then owner, Oswald Slade, who gifted them in 1940 to the people of Warwick to mark the centenary since Warwick area was settled by the Leslie Brothers. (*Warwick Daily News* 20 April 2017 p. 8)



Contributed Warwick Daily News photo THE LESLIE PARK CENTENARY MEMORIAL GATES

**Warwick** – Warwick Artist Group held an art exhibition, 'Our Town: Then and Now', on the Warwick district history as part of the Southern Downs Heritage Festival. It was hung in the *Criterion Hotel* Ballroom. (*Warwick Daily News* 20 April 2017 p.7 including photographs)

**Weipa** – Celebrations will be held on 14 -16 July to mark the 50 years since Weipa was officially opened as a town. The old cinema hall at Rocky Point will house craft displays and will show footage on the old screen. (*Cape York News* 29 March 2017 p. 12 including photograph)

#### **Thank You!**

The Society thanks its member, Mr Ian Simmonds, for all its bookbinding work for the Society over the last two decades. It has been of enormous assistance. The Society sends its best wishes to Ian in his retirement.

## The Wednesday Talk for June

#### The Chermside Garden Settlement – 80 years of retirement living



John Oxley Library photo

The opening of the Garden Settlement was a gala day with visitors from around the district. Hats, suits and ties were the fashion as was the string of Union Jacks flying from a wire. It was 36 years since Australia became independent and the British ties were still strong.

**Synopsis**: In November 2016 the Chermside Garden Settlement, now called Wheller Gardens, celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with the opening of a historical display across three restored 1936 cottages. This presentation will tell of the founding and some of the stories associated with the Garden Settlement's growth and development.

### Our speaker will be Judith Nissen

Judith Nissen is a professional historian with wide-ranging experience in researching Queensland history. In addition to publishing a number of books, Judith has worked on heritage studies, biographical works and historical displays, the latest at Chermside.

### **Research Report**

There is no Research Report for June.

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland PO Box 12057 Brisbane George Street QLD 4003

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## POSTAGE PAID AUSTRALIA



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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.	

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