

RHSQ

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

THE RHSQ

# Bulletin

*76 years of continuous publication*

FEBRUARY 2019 No. 837

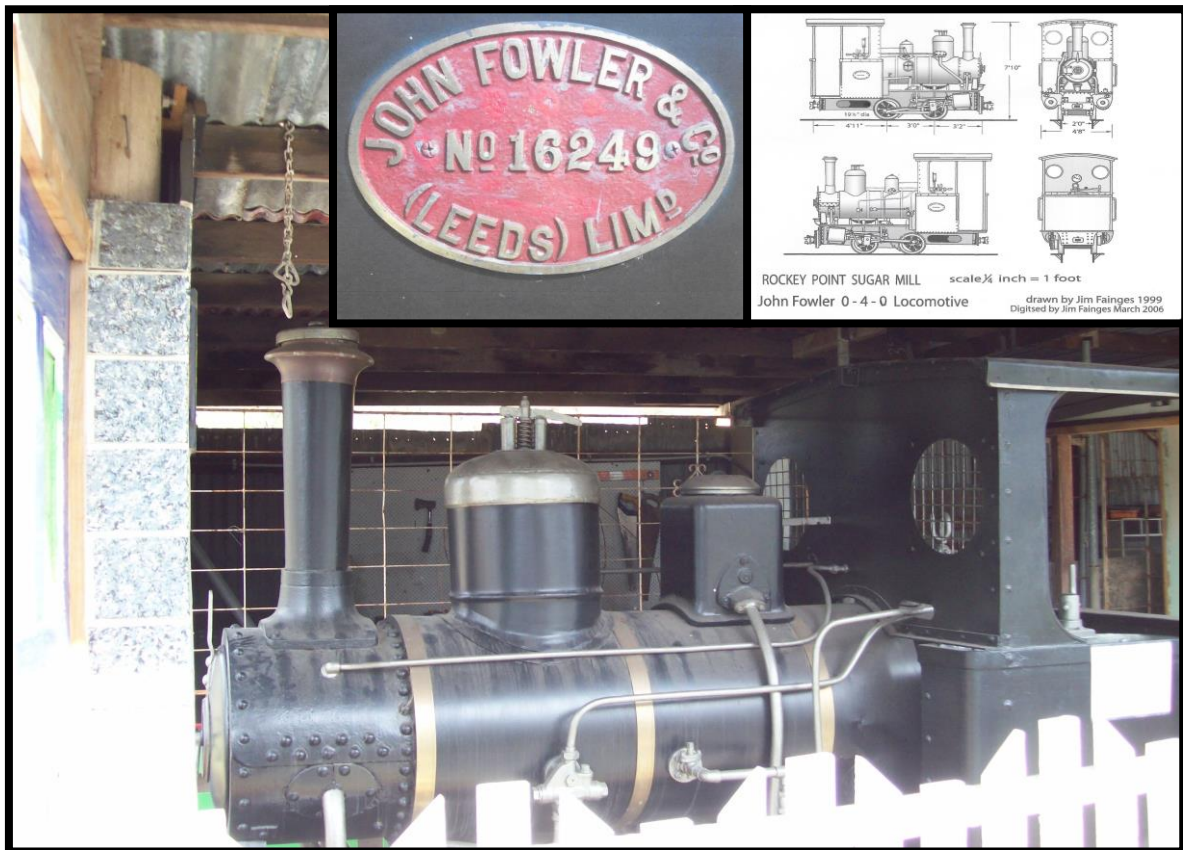
The newsletter of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

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

President: Stephen Sheaffe

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

## THE ROCKY POINT CANE LOCOMOTIVE ON SHOW AT THE BEENLEIGH HISTORICAL VILLAGE



The steam locomotive now on show at the Beenleigh Historical Village and Museum is a 0-4-0 locomotive built by John Fowler and Sons Limited of Leeds in the UK. Its serial number is 16249 and the year of manufacture is 1923. It was donated to the Village by Bill and Pat Heck.

This small locomotive spent its working life at the Rocky Point sugar plantation and mill hauling sugar cane in 20-25 wagons from the fields to the Rocky Point Mill. It ended its working life in 1951. From then until it came to the Village in 2013 it had been on display at various locations. See it at the Beenleigh Historical Village which is open every day, 9.00 am to 3.00 pm.

## President's Report

Welcome back after your Christmas break. I trust you all had a relaxing Christmas and a happy new year and you are keen to participate in all the RHSQ activities over the next year.

On 10 December 2018, the Society again celebrated Separation Day, the anniversary of the day the proclamation was read from Dr Hobbs' home in Ann Street declaring Queensland a separate colony from New South Wales. We had the pleasure to hear an enlightening lecture by the Honourable Jane Prentice MP. She delivered an interesting and concise history of Separation Day.

The organisation of speakers for our 2020 Cook conferences is continuing. I had the pleasure to receive emails and return phone calls over the holiday period from many distinguished individuals accepting our invitation to deliver papers at one or more of our Cook conferences. These include: The Vice Chancellor of the James Cook University Professor Sandra Harding; Professor Owen Nevin, the Vice Chancellor of the Central Queensland University, Captain John Dickenberg, the captain of the replica of the Endeavour; Dr Peter Ryle an expert on Cooktown history; Bev Shay, the manager of the Cooktown Historical Society Museum and others. We now have a list of excellent speakers.

The programme for 2019 begins in gusto in February. On 13 February, Matthew Wengert will be delivering a lecture on the Spanish Flu, 100 years after the illness raged across the world killing millions. On Saturday 16 February, the Armistice Day conference is being held at the Commissariat Store and on the following Saturday a conference on the history of the Stephens Shire will be held in Annerley. You are all welcome to attend these conferences. Please note that the details of these events are noted elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.

Please note that a painting by Pam Gough has been gifted by her to the Society. It is now hanging behind the reception desk. Please have a close look at this painting and offer your thanks to Pam for her generosity.

Stephen Sheaffe  
President

## Stories of Stephens

The Annerley Stephens History Group Inc. is convening a history conference for Saturday 23 February 2019 at Our Lady's College, Ipswich Road, Annerley. Speakers have been engaged on Shire, Aboriginal and many other aspects of local history. It will be a great day. You are all welcome to attend. Please contact the president: 0417 770 176

## Queensland News

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

**Brisbane Valley Railway Line – The Disused Lockyer Creek Bridge** is undergoing a \$4.5 million refurbishment and is almost complete. It is an important link in the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail (BVRT) running along the Brisbane Valley rail line. Road Tek is undertaking the work on the bridge opened for rail traffic on 16 June 1884. The contractors for the line from Wulkuraka to Lowood including the Lockyer Creek bridge were O'Rourke and McSharry. The line through to Yarraman was opened on 1 May 1913. The 161 km long BVRT is the longest rail trail. (*Railway Digest*, November 2018, vol.56 no 11, p. 45; John Kerr, *Triumph of Narrow Gauge: a History of Queensland Railways*, Brisbane, Boolarong Press, 1990, rev 1998, pp.60-62)

**Cunnamulla's** historic railway station is to have a major transformation, after funding was granted by the Queensland Government. The Paroo Progress Association advocated the upgrade. (*Western Star*, 4 December 2018 p. 8)

**Gympie** – The C17 No.45 steam engine is the subject of negotiations between the Gympie and District Historical Society and the Gympie Regional Council. The locomotive was restored by a team – John Stark, Trevor Stark, Frank Palmer, Tony Van Krevel, Trevor Laird, Greg Stolberg, Clyde Kunst and Jack Ison. Details of the work were published in a booklet, *The Return of Steam Locomotive C17 No.45* in 2000, commissioned by the then Gympie Mayor, Joan Dodt. It was then hired by the Mary Valley Heritage Railway to launch the Mary Valley Rattler in 1998. Negotiations are being held over the future of the locomotive which is not being utilised currently. (*Gympie Times*, 5 January 2019, p. 3 including photograph)

**Kilkivan** – The town’s World War I and World War II Honour Rolls were restored by International Conservation Services in Sydney under a Queensland government Anzac Centenary Grant. The Kilkivan Veteran’s and Community Men’s Shed undertook the \$19,775 grant on behalf of the community. A small event was held in Kilkivan in the first week of November 2018 to reinstall the Honour Rolls in the Public Hall. (*Gympie Times* 17 November 2018 p. 16)

**Mapoon – Cape York** – The Mapoon Church is to be rebuilt with \$1.65 million of funds from the Western Cape Communities Trust (supported by Rio Tinto Limited). No grant funds were forthcoming from the state or federal governments. Residents of Mapoon Aboriginal Shire have been working for 15 years to secure funding for the rebuilding. It is to be built on the Red Beach site which has been pre-approved by all interested parties. (*Cape York News* 28 November 2018 p. 6 including photograph of original church)

**Ravenshoe** – The future of Ravenshoe’s steam train is in doubt. Ravenshoe Railway Company Limited (RRCL) chairman John Kidner informed members at the Annual General Meeting that future train services are unlikely. He said that the future depends on having more volunteers. RRCL currently has 42 members. The group’s Safety Management System has been forwarded to the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator. (*Tablelander* 20 November 2018 p. 11 including colour photograph)

## Queensland Memory State Library of Queensland November 2018

The Queensland Business Leaders Hall of Fame 2018 Fellow, and RHSQ member Dr Hilary Davies is currently researching the Canada Cycle and Motor Agency (Qld) Ltd (CCMA), a leading company in Queensland’s cycling and early motor industry, between 1905 and 1930. Through examining the collections of the State Library of Queensland, Hilary’s project will demonstrate CCMA’s importance in the Queensland business landscape and contribute new knowledge about the motor industry in Queensland during the early twentieth century.

For more information or if you have any memories or a connection to CCMA and would like to contribute, contact Hilary through the State Library or telephone on 3840 7424.



Image number 21218704270002061, John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

**Gray utility van used by Glencoe Laundry in Brisbane, Queensland.  
Canada Cycle and Motor Agency Ltd. were the agents for Gray automobiles.**

## Roma and District Family History Society

The Roma & District Family History Society Inc. was formed in 1994. The society’s vast collection of local records is permanently housed in the Roma History Lodge, relocated to Council land in McDowall Street. The group collects the recorded history of the district, covering the greater Maranoa Council area. The six main categories the group has compiled from scratch, collated and indexed include: weddings and engagements dating from the late 1800s to the present day; district obituaries and eulogies totalling 2558 entries; indexing local publications with 78,505 entries listing surnames, businesses, groups, properties,

place names and townships with 1000s more entries waiting to be added; extensive property files covering areas from the NSW border to central Queensland from 1900; personnel involved in wars including the Boer War; district schools past and present. They also provide a research service. Website: <http://www.romaforfamilies.org/roma-district-family-history-society-inc-17-mcdowall-street/>



Photo: Mary Worland

### **President of Roma & District Family History Society Inc., Maree Worland shows some of the Maranoa's records the group manages, October 2018**

## **National Archives of Australia**

**18 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill Qld**

### **Self Service Digitisation of Selected Records by the Public**

The Queensland Office of the National Archives is testing the feasibility of allowing self-service digitisation of selected records by the public in a controlled reading room environment. It is being trialled in the Queensland Reading Room only, from 8 November 2018 to 30 April 2019.

#### **Instructions for participating in this trial and digitising record for personal use**

1. Ask the Archives Officer on duty if the file you wish to digitise is suitable for this service. The Archives Officer will allow digitisation of files that are robust enough to handle the process with minimal risk of damage.
2. The Archives Officer on duty will ensure the scanner is ready to operate. If in doubt, ask.
3. Do not change any scanner settings. The scanner is set to the Archives digitisation standards.
4. Digitise each page
  - a. Start at the front file cover.
  - b. Press the green button on the scanner, or click the 'Scan' button on the screen.
  - c. Scan every page, starting from the top page and continuing to the bottom.
  - d. Place the page in the centre of the glass – the scanner will align the image automatically
  - e. Include the back of any page that has information regardless of its significance
  - f. If you make a mistake, just repeat the scan and inform the attendant.
  - g. Once you have finished, return all pages to the file pin.
  - h. It is important that the pages are returned in their original order.
5. If you have any questions, ask the Archives Officer.
6. If you wish to digitise more than one file, inform the Archives Officer. After each file is complete, the Archives Officer will collate the images into a file folder.
7. Once completed, the Archives Officer will download the images to a USB for you to take with you.

The images created you may be processed and loaded to the Archives' RecordSearch database where they can be viewed by the public. The images will be subject to quality assurance before they are loaded. And some files may be rejected.

(Information provided by David Swift, Manager, National Archives of Australia, Queensland Office.)

### **NOMINATIONS FOR JOHN DOUGLAS KERR**

#### **MEDAL OF DISTINCTION FOR RESEARCH AND WRITING AUSTRALIAN HISTORY**

Nominations are called for the John Douglas Kerr Medal which is awarded each year for distinction in research and writing Australian History. Details of the award are available on the Society's website at: <http://www.queenslandhistory.org/awards-and-medals/>

The criteria for the award are:

1. Demonstrated excellence in historical research in any one or more fields of Queensland or Australian history
2. Demonstrated and identified use of wide-spread appropriate source material in the context of the nominee's research field or fields
3. Demonstrated objective analysis, distillation and interpretation of historical source material leading to the formation of historical arguments arising out of the research
4. Demonstrated acceptance of the highest standards of scholarship as judged by the Queensland community of professional historians, assessing the work of written contributions of the nominee
5. Is currently practicing as a historian at a professional standard.

**Nominations close with the RHSQ on 31 March 2019.**

### **Research Report**

The following are the research matters dealt with over the past four weeks: enquiries on Brisbane's electrical lighting in regard to Edison tube/cables; the history of the Empire Hotel; permission to use an image of Brisbane's Historical North Bank.

From the original letters in the RHSQ archives, Beth has compiled a short life history of William Thomson Waddell covering his war service from June 1915 until his death on 2 September 1918. The Society has also been offered high quality copies of Charles Buchanan's postcards, which have been eagerly accepted.

Additionally, it has been announced that the RAHS Journal is now available online on TROVE. Natalie Lynch visited the society in regard to her exhibition *House of Corrections, 2012*. This exhibition included a scale model of four Solitary Cells from the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement. Natalie has also donated the Acquisition Entry of digital files to the Society. This includes the photographic documentation of the model by Carl Warner .

Vanessa Greco

### **The Talk for February**

**Wednesday 13 February 12.30 to 1.30 pm**

**'City in Masks – Spanish Flu in Brisbane, 1919'**

Speaker: Matthew Wengert

### **RHSQ Office Holders for 2018/2019 Elected at the AGM**

**President: Stephen Sheaffe**

**Vice President: Michael Halliday**

**Hon Secretary: Ruth Kerr**

**Hon Treasurer: Barrie Rollason**

**Councillors: Denver Beanland, Ian Jempson, Rebecca Ling, Jeffrey O'Mara, Janet Pender, Michelle Pickering, Janet Prowse, Timothy Roberts, Jon Stanford.**

**Immediate Past President: Mr Dean Prangley (not required to be elected).**

If undeliverable return to:

The Royal Historical Society of Qld  
 PO Box 12057  
 GEORGE STREET QLD 4003.

The RHSQ Bulletin

**PRINT  
 POST  
 100004098**

**POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 AUSTRALIA**



<u><b>IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS</b></u> <u><b>FEBRUARY</b></u>	<u><b>NEW MEMBERS</b></u>
<p><b>Wednesday 13 February, Talk 12.30 to 1.30 pm</b>  <b>‘City in Masks – Spanish Flu in Brisbane, 1919’</b>                      Speaker: Matthew Wengert</p> <p><b>Thursday 14 February, Council Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Friday 15 February, <i>Bulletin</i> Deadline</b></p> <p><b>Saturday 16 February, 9.00 am to 1.00 pm</b>  <b>Remembering Armistice: Conference by The RHSQ</b></p>	

Contact Details	<i>Bulletin</i> Articles Only	Subscriptions
Manager: Ilona Fekete	Editor: Dr Graeme Nicholson	Ordinary Member: \$ 66.00
ABN: 34 217 251 028	A/Editor: Gloria Nicholson	Partner of Member: \$ 22.00
Phone: 07 3221 4198	Phone: 07 3221 4198	Junior Member (U18): \$ 11.00
Fax: 07 3221 4698	Fax: 07 3221 4698	Full-time Student (U25):\$ 33.00
email: info@queenslandhistory.org.au	email: info@queenslandhistory.org.au	Affiliated Society: \$ 55.00
website: www.queenslandhistory.org.au	The Society acknowledges financial assistance from: Commonwealth Government Heritage Grants; Qld Government Gambling Community Benefit Fund; Lord Mayor Graham Quirk, The Lord Mayor’s Suburban Initiative Fund; Brisbane City Council; Qld State Archives; Blocksidge and Ferguson Real Estate; Our Honorary Auditor, Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd.	Libraries: \$ 66.00
Address: 115 William Street, Brisbane Postal: The Royal Historical Society of Queensland, PO Box 12057, Brisbane, George Street, 4003		Corporate/Institutions: \$ 275.00
		Life Membership - Purchased after 10 Years as a Member \$ 5,500.00