

RHSQ

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

THE RHSQ

Bulletin

77 years of continuous publication

JUNE 2019 No. 841

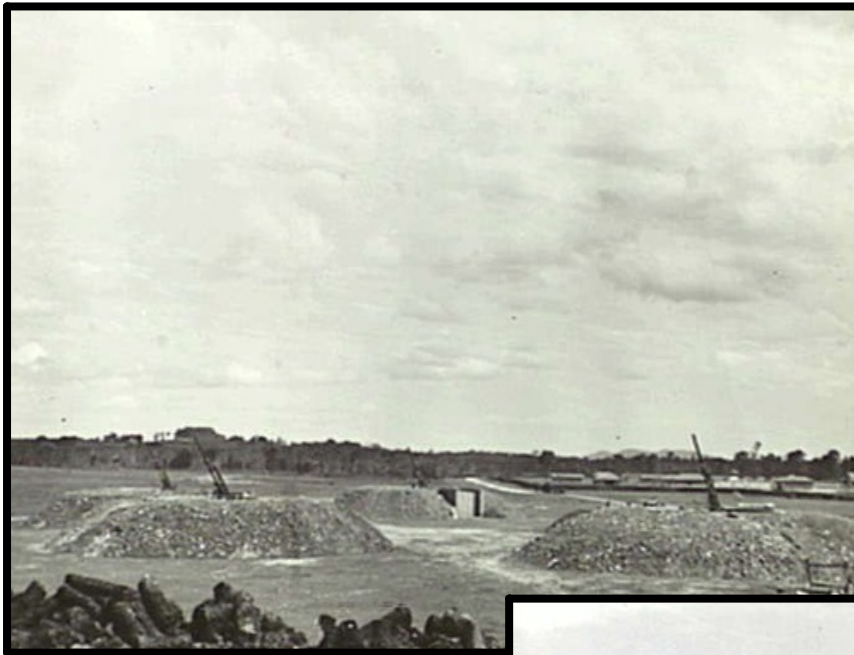
The newsletter of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

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

President: Stephen Sheaffe

Website: www.queenslandhistory.org.au

Proposal for the Lytton Heavy Anti-Aircraft battery emplacement to be placed in the Queensland Heritage Register (Heritage Register) as a State Heritage Place (See item page 3).



AWM Photo 060054

Gunpits with Guns Visible



The photographs were taken at Fort Lytton on 11 November 1943 by Ronald Noel Keam, an official photographer. The gunners are from 385th Troop, 6th Australian Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery.

AWM Photo 060060

Gun Crew run to their gunpit in response to an action alarm drill.



President's Report

It was a pleasure to write the foreword for the book titled *The History of the Beenleigh and District Historical Society: The First 50 years 1969-2019* written by Dr Graeme Nicholson. I also attended and launched this beautiful coloured tome on 14 May at the Beenleigh Historical Village. The book was launched to celebrate the 50 years to the day since our then president Commander Pixley launched the Beenleigh Society at its foundation meeting. The Society has been a booming success and a congratulation is extended to every volunteer and to every member of the committee over that time. Within two years of its inception, they began acquiring heritage buildings and relocating them onto their land. They now own 50 buildings with over 20 having genuine heritage significance. They have a great future.

Also, the RHSQ gifted a copy of *Lost Brisbane* to The Star Entertainment Group and Destination Brisbane Consortium to be inserted in their time capsule that was buried last Friday morning in the partially constructed Waterline Park at Queens Wharf near the freeway and in front of No 1. William Street. The event was launched by the Premier in the presence of other Ministers and many of the donors. The media were in also in attendance and photographed the participants. The capsule will be opened in 2049. I again had the pleasure to attend and participate in this event. I had to quickly leave the function for the Brisbane Club where I chaired the bi-monthly lecture for their history committee. The lecture by Graham Young had a real political tone.

I also wish to congratulate Samantha Rowe who has been appointed the RHSQ Exhibition Officer. As President, I was invited to deliver the ANZAC day address at Yeronga Park in front of the sandstone Cenotaph. I was asked to speak about the historical connections between war and the old Stephens Shire. Over 3,000 people were in attendance. I am also a member of the committee organising a conference at the Yeronga RSL to be held on 26 October 2019. The conference will hear papers on the history of Yeronga Park and Honour Avenue, the Drill Hall in Dudley Street in Annerley, the Greenslopes Military Hospital and Rhyndarra Women's Military Hospital. The first war service home was built at 40 Fanny Street in 1919 with the stump capping ceremony held in the presence of a large throng of local dignitaries just before construction commenced. Finally, in WWII, the locality was covered with tents to house local and overseas servicemen.

Last night Dr Ruth Kerr and I had the pleasure to again have dinner with Peter Scott, the Mayor of Cooktown. We discussed the conference on Cook to be held next year. It was tentatively agreed that the conference will be held on Monday 27 July 2020 in Cooktown. Final dates will be soon circulated.

A few days ago, I received a call from Dan Kelly from publishers Boolarong Press asking whether we could convene a lecture on the history of *Waltzing Matilda* to support a recently written book on the topic. The issue was raised at our Council meeting and we resolved to hold a lecture meeting on Friday 21 June 2019 at midday. The book written by barrister Benjamin Lindner tells the story of the history of this inspiring song and it will dispel the myths and folklore surrounding the composition of the work. The author is only visiting Brisbane for two days on his way to Winton to launch the book. This is a one-off event and I encourage you all to attend. It should be a great story.

Finally, Ralph Devlin QC has agreed to be our guest speaker on our Separation Day Event later this year.

Stephen Sheaffe
President

Queensland News

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

Brooloo, Mary Valley – Community efforts began in October 2017 to build a Men's Shed at Brooloo using the materials of the old Brooloo Public Hall. That hall was demolished in 2011 because of the poor condition of the stumps. The timber including a mountain ash sprung timber floor was stored in a shed constructed for the purpose. The stumps of the hall remain in place but much of the timber in the shed does not. Meanwhile the Councillor for the area, Bob Fredman, and local people are seeking to have a new shed built for a Men's Shed. (*Gympie Times* 18 December 2010 and 11 May 2019 pp. 1 and 3)

Mary Valley Railway – A review is underway into the cost increases (\$7 million) in the Mary Valley Railway (Rattler) restoration and management. Legal issues are also included in the review. (*Gympie Times* 27 April 2019 pp. 1 and 5)

Millaa – Henry Tranter, aged 100, and a founder of the Eacham Historical Society, died on 2 May 2019. He wrote many history books about the Atherton Tableland area and attended the Millaa State School centenary celebrations in 2018 as the oldest surviving student. He was also a Rat of Tobruk in World War II. (*Tablelander* 7 May 2019 pp. 2 and 25)

Peeramon – The World War I Roll of Honour originally housed in the Peeramon Community Hall has been returned after 40 years and is now hung in the Peeramon Hotel. Malanda RSL Sub Branch, Malanda Men's Shed, Eacham Historical Society and Peeramon Hotel worked to restore the honour board which lists the names of 38 men. The handover ceremony occurred on 13 April 2019. (*Tablelander* 2 April 2019 p. 16 and 23 April 2019 pp. 1, 5 and 22 including photographs)



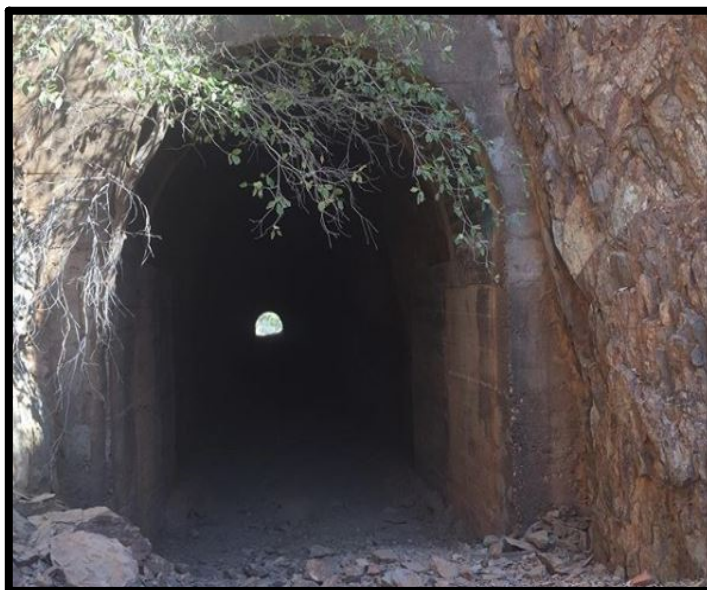
Malanda RSL Photo

The Peeramon and District Honour Board

Toowong – A 300 year-old grey ironbark bearing an Aboriginal canoe scar near the Soudan Street at Toowong has been saved after a campaign by conservationists. The tree is close to the proposed wall of the new Academy for Science, Mathematics and Technology's Northern Learning Centre at Toowong. The building is to be moved 11.4m from the tree. Education Queensland negotiated with the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and the Turrbal People. (*Westside News* 18 April 2019 p. 3)

Heritage News

On **20 March 2019**, the Queensland Heritage Council resolved to enter the **Wee MacGregor tram and rail complex and the former towns of Ballara and Hightville and Kuridala** in the Cloncurry region in the Queensland Heritage Register as State Heritage Places. These towns were very significant in the copper boom in Queensland from 1898 to the end of World War 1.



Derek Barry Photo

The Tunnel on the Wee MacGregor Rail Line

(The tunnel is 199m long, 3m wide and 4m high. It was built by a gang of nine men hired on a flat contract rate plus dynamite costs)

On **20 March 2019**, the Queensland Heritage Council resolved to vary the entry and enter additional land to **Maytown on the Palmer Goldfield** in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place.

On **20 March 2019** the Department of Environment and Science (the Department) received an application proposing entry of the **Lytton Heavy Anti-Aircraft battery emplacement** in the Queensland Heritage Register (Heritage Register) as a State Heritage Place.

On **16 April 2019** the Department of Environment and Science (the Department) received an application proposing entry of **Harris House, 1 Clifford Street, Toowoomba** in the Queensland Heritage Register (Heritage Register) as a State Heritage Place.

On **7 May 2019** the Department of Environment and Science (the Department) received an application proposing entry of the **University of Queensland Union Complex** in the Queensland Heritage Register (Heritage Register) as a State Heritage Place.

Research Report

Several of the Library and Research team have been absent over the past weeks. The efforts of the remaining volunteers in maintaining the usual high standard of service is much appreciated. Research queries received in May related to: the history of neighbourhoods where stations of the Cross River Rail will be located; historical background of items of furniture donated to the RHSQ; history of a Hamilton house and photos; early history of the Coen to Cooktown mail run; swimming history and photos of the Southbank Parklands reach of the Brisbane river, with an emphasis on Aboriginal history; photos of Jack Pesch.

Members of the Kenmore and District Historical Society visited the Library to research and collect archival material and photos relating to the district. Sarah Bartels continues to source photos and archival material from the Library to produce interesting stories on aspects of Queensland history for the RHSQ website. ‘Thank you’ to the donors of the following books: Dr Graeme Nicholson. *The History of the Beenleigh and District Historical Society: The First 50 Years 1969-2019*; The Kenmore and District Historical Society, *The Kenmore War Memorial*, and, *Kenmore and District, A Pictorial History*.

Kay Cohen

Family Reunion For all descendants of Johann Mathias Reimers

29 June 2019 Starting at 9.00 am – Official Welcome at 11.00 am

Cabarlah Hall (just east of Toowoomba)

Come along and meet lots of Family Members

Lots of new historical documents to share

Get more details and send updates to reimersfamilytree@gmail.com

Please email us now to register your email address and receive newsletters and reminders about the reunion.

Contact

Jeanette Reimers 0434 575 989; Lyn Dippel 0448 090 014 ; Bruce Reimers 0434 178 765

BBQ and refreshments; Family Tree Book; Family Photos

Surnames from the first four generations of Reimers family:

Abel, Anderson, Andrews, Barron, Beaton, Beutel, Boatfield, Collins, Creighton, Cross, Dascombe, Deeth, Franey, Garrett, Gersekowski, Gibson, Gilles, Gowlett, Hartwig, Hoffmann, Inwood, Jorgensen, Kanowski, Kuhl, Mathies, Maynard, McCauley, Menzel, Miller, Murray, Nelder, Nothdurft, Peters, Petersen, Pukallus, Radford, Rasmussen, Rundman, Sander, Schultz, Sperling, Spies, Steinberg, Thun, Voll, Wood, Wrembeck, PLUS many more surnames from more recent generations

Coming Events

6 June, Thursday, 6:30 pm – Qld Day Dinner and the Presentation of the J D Kerr Medal of Distinction

This year's special guest speaker will be His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland, Patron of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland.

You are able to book your tickets online – ticket prices remained the same as last year: \$135/members, \$145 / guests. Please, send an email/ give us a call if you have any dietary requirements.

<http://www.queenslandhistory.org/event/queensland-day-dinner-and-the-presentation-of-the-j-d-kerr-medal-of-distinction>

ENTRIES OPEN FOR THE PRESTIGIOUS MARK AND EVETTE MORAN NIB LITERARY AWARD

Nominations opened on Monday 8 April for the prestigious Mark and Evette Moran Nib Literary Award, Waverley Council's annual celebration of the best in Australian research and writing.

The Nib awards a prize pool of \$30,000 across four categories and is the only major national literary award presented by a local council. Now in its 18th year, the Nib has distributed around \$400,000 to deserving Australian authors since its inception.

The Nib recognises and celebrates quality research and writing across the country and encourages both emerging and established writers to submit works across all genres and subjects.

Entries are judged on quality research, literary merit, readability and value to the community.

Mayor of Waverley, John Wakefield, said the importance of the award is evident in the diverse scope of works shortlisted each year. "Our winning authors inspire and fascinate readers by providing a unique lens of the world. Each has grappled with enduring and universal themes and examine the nature of humans and relationships. Each year, the judges have a difficult decision to make due to the high calibre of entries we receive."

Previous winners across categories have included Helen Garner, Erik Jensen, Gideon Haigh, Mark Dapin, Helen Lewis and Bri Lee.

The award categories include:

Mark and Evette Moran Nib Literary Award- \$20,000; Nib Military History Prize- \$3000; Alex Buzo Shortlist Prize- six prizes of \$1000 each and Nib People's Choice Prize- \$1000

Titles first published between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019 are eligible for this year's award program.

Full nomination guidelines and submission details: www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/nib.

Nominations close Monday 3 June 2019.

The Nib is administered and presented annually by Waverley Council with the generous support of

Principal Sponsors Mark and Evette Moran and the ongoing commitment and assistance of our community partners Gertrude and Alice Bookshop and Cafe and the RSL Sub-BrancheS of Bondi Junction, North Bondi, and Rose Bay.

-ends-

Media inquiries: Debbie McInnes, DMCPRmedia, 02 9550 9207 or Debbie@dmcpr.com.au

What's on at The Queensland State Archives

Exhibition: Birdcage of the Bay: St Helena Island Prison

Birdcage of the Bay recreates the prison stockade using plans from the collection of Queensland State Archives and other historical sources to show the extent of the prison establishment.

During the years of St Helena's operation only prisoners, guards and their families experienced life in the stockade, while visitors met prisoners in a hot, mosquito-infested building known as the 'birdcage'.

Birdcage of the Bay offers glimpses of life at the St Helena Island Prison beyond the walls of the visitor box. Come visit the exhibition from 25 March to 6 September, or book for a free one-hour Curator tour at these times:

- 10.00 am, Wednesday 24 July
- 1.00 pm, Wednesday 4 September.

Queensland State Archives is open from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm Monday to Friday, and the second Saturday of every month. Located at 435 Compton Rd, Runcorn.

Talk for June

Wednesday 12 June 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm

Speaker: Jon Stanford - Talk: To be Advised

<u>IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS</u> <u>JUNE</u>	<u>NEW MEMBERS</u>	
Thursday 6 June, Queensland Day Dinner Wednesday 12 June, Talk 12.30 to 1.30 pm Topic: To be advised Speaker: Jon Stanford Thursday 13 June, Council Meeting Saturday 15 June, <i>Bulletin</i> Deadline	Robyn Jenkins Wendy Thurlow Jarrod Sierocki Cara Downes	Cloncurry Capalaba Brisbane CBD Manly

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