



THE RHSQ

Bulletin

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The newsletter of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC,

Governor of Queensland

President: Dr Denver Beanland AM

Website: www.queenslandhistory.org

YEPPOON RAILWAY STATION RESTORATION



John Oxley Library Photo

Railway tracks at Yeppoon, circa 1938

In 1890 a survey was conducted to provide a railway line to Yeppoon. Eventually, the line to Yeppoon was approved and the first section of five kilometres from Sleipner (New Zealand Gully) to Mount Chalmers was opened in November 1908. The next 27 kilometres to Yeppoon was opened on 20 December 1909. The official opening was by the Queensland Governor, Sir William MacGregor on 21 January 1910.

A parcels and luggage room were added in 1910. By 1943 the complex included a goods shed, station master's house, guards' quarters, drivers' quarters, forklift and loading ramp. The goods shed was relocated within the railyard in 1966.

The first Rockhampton to Yeppoon train carried 128 passengers who paid three shillings and ten pence for a second-class fare. The railway with fares much cheaper and more comfortable than the horsedrawn coach brought rapid progress to the Yeppoon area. The station closed in February 1970. (See story page 4)

President's Report

Unfortunately, because of COVID-19 your Society had to transfer the date of the major Book Fair to Saturday 25 September 2021 for Members and Sunday 26 September for the general public. It will still be held at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, City, on those days between the hours of 10.00 and 3.00 pm. This is the perfect opportunity for members to pick up some fascinating history books and one-of-a-kind historical texts on Saturday 25 September. It is a chance to obtain presents for various occasions with history books and magazines, many of which are very difficult to obtain publicly. Entry for Members will be free. Then on Sunday 26 September between the hours of 10.00 am and 3.00 pm for the general public. Entry fee for the general public will be adults \$5 each, children under 15 years of age \$2.50 each, and \$10 for a family. This will enable everyone to see first-hand the Commissariat Store, built by convicts in 1828-29, the convict museum, and various other exhibitions and displays as well as attend the Book Fair.

In addition to books on sale, will be *Queensland History Journals* that are surplus to requirements from various past decades in lots of eight for \$5, or single *Journals* at \$1 each. Furthermore, the Society will have on sale many of its own publications that have been produced on Queensland's history at much reduced prices. Members – Saturday 25 September is your day.

Members are reminded that the next one-hour Wednesday lecture commencing at 12.30 pm at the Commissariat Store on 8 September is entitled 'Waterworks Road'. The guest speaker will be Peter Eedy who will take you through the critical importance of Brisbane's water supply in the late 1800s. Residents had relied on the reservoir between what is now George and Roma Streets. Although entry is free for members, you are reminded that because of COVID-19 you are required to book, which can be done online. Non-members will be required to pay an entrance fee of \$10 and those aged over 65 \$8.

To celebrate 40 years since the RHSQ moved from Newstead House to the Commissariat Store, your Society will hold a wine and cheese evening on Friday 10 September 2021 at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, City, between the hours of 5.30 pm and 7.00 pm to which all members are invited. Your Council looks forward to seeing members on this special convivial occasion. Because of COVID-19 members will need to book on the RHSQ website under events even though there will be no charge for the evening.

On Saturday 9 October the Society is having its next conference entitled 'Queensland's Earliest Surveyors – who, what and where?' The conference will commence at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, City, at 9.30 am and conclude by 1 pm with registration commencing at 9.00 am. There will be 10 guest speakers, so it will be an action-packed conference, covering a broad range of surveyors and issues. As usual the details are on the RHSQ website and a separate flyer will be distributed to members with more information. Booking online is essential.

Our Wednesday lecture on 14 October at 12.30 pm at the Commissariat Store will feature Lesley Synge speaking on 'The Fickle Fortunes of a Mount Morgan Miner's Family'. Presenter Lesley Synge is best known for her poetry and fiction titles and her biography *Wharfie*. The annual Arts Central Queensland Lorna McDonald Essay Award has inspired her to revisit her Central Queensland origins through the lens of history. She has twice won the award and received other commendations. She holds an MA from UQ.

Nominations for the John and Ruth Kerr Medal will be called on 1 September and will close on 31 March 2022. The criteria and nomination forms are on the RHSQ website or can be obtained from the Manager of the Commissariat Store.

Newstead House is currently closed to the general public and will undergo major restoration over the next year or two. Newstead House is being decanted by the Museum of Brisbane. We understand it will be reopened in due course as an 1880s House Museum. Consequently, the RHSQ has to reclaim artefacts it wishes to keep and will consider appropriate action for any other items on loan in the coming weeks. As members are aware many artefacts remained on loan to Newstead House when the Society moved to the Commissariat Store in 1981.

A special thanks to Dr Judith McKay for her tremendous work on the RHSQ's Significance Assessment of the Museum Collection Report dated June 2021 which was considered at the Society's recent Council meeting. Although commissioned by the Society through a grant from the National Library of Australia, a great deal of the work that Judith put into her report must be considered a labour of love. The 28 recommendations in the Assessment were approved by your Council and their implementation will now commence. Because some of the artefacts will require considerable restoration and expenditure, grants will obviously be sought to implement those recommendations. Over the coming weeks the Society hopes to have the report together with recommendations placed on the website. The Society greatly appreciates the work that Judith has done on what she describes as an 'outstandingly significant' museum collection.

Members and the general public who wish to volunteer for a range of activities such as assisting with the cataloguing and researching of the Museum Collection or Library Collection or other volunteering activities are asked to contact the Manager at the Commissariat Store. There are many varied opportunities.

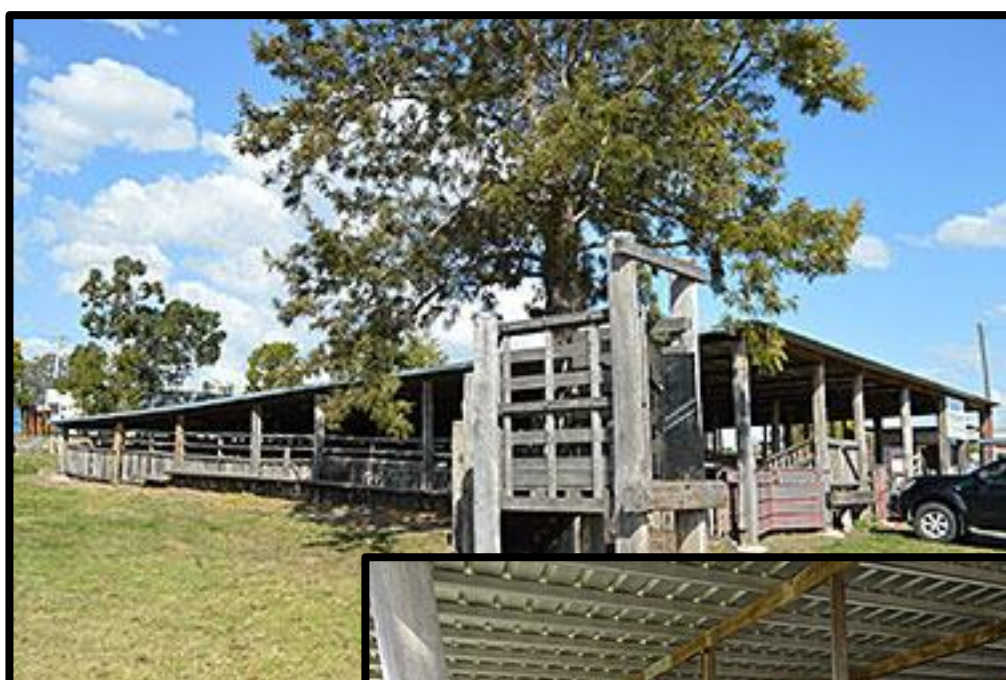
I look forward to meeting members at forthcoming events.

Denver Beanland
President

Queensland Report

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

Beaudesert – The future of the Beaudesert saleyards is uncertain. Mediation between the Scenic Rim Shire Council and the Queensland Heritage Council has failed to resolve the differences between them. The Council is challenging the decision of the Queensland Heritage Council to list the saleyards on the Queensland Heritage Register. The issue is now likely to proceed to court. The shire council cancelled the lease on the saleyards because they believed that the old saleyards do not meet modern environmental, animal welfare and safety standards. (*The Fassifern Guardian and Tribune*, 14 July 2021, pp. 1 and 5)



Built in 1960, the Beaudesert Pig and Calf Saleyard remains in highly original condition.



Qld Heritage Photos

Maryborough: The Maryborough Military and Colonial Museum is searching for the owner of a very accurate antique model of the HMB *Endeavour* which is in the museum. The model was in a Noosa Heads shop which a lady bought to operate as a hairdressing salon. When she retired in 2000, she took the model with her to Tabinga and donated it to Kingaroy Museum who has since gifted it to the Maryborough

Museum. The manager of the Maryborough Military and Colonial Museum, Christopher Nelson (MOB 0407966037) wishes to return the model to its original owner. (*Noosa Today*, 23 July 2021, p. 32 including the photographs)



Noosa Today Photo

The model of HMB *Endeavour*

Yeppoon – Restoration work on the heritage-listed railway station project has been completed. Almost \$1 million was spent on to the railway building and a new shared path linking a missing connection in the Capricorn Coast Pineapple Rail Trail. The works, which were carried out by Landbrook Building and Construction, included the replacement of the roof and footings, and repairs to the railway platform columns, along with the refurbishment of the original parcel room joinery. Funds for the work were obtained from the Growth Area and Regional Infrastructure Investment Fund initiative. The Livingstone Shire Council also plans site repatriation and drainage works. Silverstone Developments who have acquired the western 1.5 hectares of the site are working a master planned urban renewal precinct in consultation with Livingstone Shire Council. The Council is investigating future community uses for the rest of the site and suitable options for the station building. (*Rockhampton Bulletin*, 6 July 2021)

Ipswich – The Ipswich Regional Council is considering reinstating an advisory Heritage and Monuments Advisory Committee. The Committee was formed in 1991 and enabled independent community members to give advice on statutory listing of Character Places. In more recent years it became and knowledge exchange and networking group. The interim administrator, Greg Chemello abolished the committee in 2019. The new council has brought a plan to re-establish the committee to the Growth Infrastructure and Waste Committee for consideration and report to the full council. (*The Fassifern Guardian and Tribune*, 14 July 2021, pp. 1 and 4)

HERITAGE

On **21 July 2021** the Department of Environment and Science (the Department) received an application proposing entry of the **Trinity Grove Uniting Church (former Wilston Methodist Memorial Church), 181 Kedron Brook Road, Wilston** in the Queensland Heritage Register (Heritage Register) as a State Heritage Place.

Library and Research Team Volunteer Required

The Library and Research Team urgently needs a **volunteer cataloguer**. The Society is purchasing an

updated computer cataloguing system which will greatly aid the work of Library and Research Team and ultimately lead to the upload of the catalogue on the website. If you are able to take up this opportunity or know a library cataloguer who could, please contact the Manager, Sophie West at email: info@queenslandhistory.org

Library and Research Report

Work on the various Library projects in train has been minimal during the past month owing to the lockdown and subsequent absence of volunteers. Our research team has processed the following enquiries: for a photo of early Queensland surveyor J.C. Burnett who surveyed the Burnett River in 1847, a copy of a photo of workers on the Story Bridge construction which appeared in the RHSQ's publication *Lost Brisbane*, and a copy of a RHSQ photo of a camel train that appears on the RHSQ website. There was a request for information on James Chant who arrived in Moreton Bay on the immigrant ship *Mt. Stuart Elphinstone* in 1849.



***Mount Stewart Elphinstone* by William Adolphus Knell 1840 from the National Maritime Museum Collection in England.**

Further information was requested on: Doris Philp who obtained her medical degree from Sydney University in 1922; on the site of the death in 1861 of Const. Matthew Connolly, Queensland's first police officer; the cost of passenger fares on certain Brisbane suburban train routes in 1945; on Frederick Bailey, Colonial Botanist appointed in Brisbane 1881. Bailey also played a large part in discovering and naming many plants in Queensland, other Australian colonies and New Guinea; on a poster advertising 'Joh for PM' campaign, and on links to Queensland indigenous history; on the impact of engineering firm Walkers Ltd.'s operations on the history of Maryborough and district; a funeral parlour located in Adelaide St., Brisbane until c. 1960s. A Melbourne-based photo historian requested information on the Library's Richard Daintree glass-plate negative collection. A visiting researcher examined World War One correspondence in the RHSQ's Waddell Archival Collection. The library has been offered digitised photos of William Lennon (Labour MLA for Herbert 1907-1920) and his wife Mary.

Kay Cohen,
Library and Research Co-Ordinator

Community Fund Grant



We are thrilled to have received a grant for the purchase of an iPad, case and tripod. As part of our commitment to community outreach, especially in the face of intermittent Covid restrictions, it will be used for social media, checking in visitors without a smartphone to the museum, and most importantly to record our seminars and Wednesday talks, making them accessible to people across Queensland.

This project is supported by the Lord Mayor's Community Fund and Central Ward Councillor, Vicki Howard.

<u>IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS</u> <u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>NEW MEMBERS</u>
<p>Wednesday 08 September, 12.30 pm, Talk 'Waterworks Road'. The guest speaker will be Peter Eedy</p> <p>Thursday 09 September, Council Meeting</p> <p>Friday 10 September, 5.30 pm, Wine and Cheese evening</p> <p>Wednesday 15 September, <i>Bulletin</i> deadline.</p> <p>Saturday 25 September, Book Fair for Members</p> <p>Sunday 26 September, Book Fair for the Public</p>	<p>Lara Martin, Narangba</p> <p>Jess Parker, Ferny Hills</p> <p>Gabby Palm, Loganholme</p> <p>Evelyn Murphy, Sunshine Coast Council, Noosaville</p> <p>Roslyn Mier, Hamilton</p> <p>Dr. Jonathan (Jack) Ford, Northgate</p> <p>Jan Freemantle, Sherwood</p> <p>Marteena McKenzie, Red Hill</p> <p>Emma Dedrie, Gumdale</p> <p>Margaret Telfer, Upper Brookfield</p> <p>Barry Long, Gympie</p> <p>Drew Koenigsberg, Albion</p> <p>Matthew McDiarmid, Rockville</p> <p>Patricia Haycock, New Farm</p> <p>Gerard Carney, Paradise Waters</p> <p>Kerry Dalton, Auchenflower</p> <p>Ian Raphael Gutierrez, Woolloongabba</p> <p>Maria Rosenfelder and Harry Verreyt, Palmwoods</p> <p>Toni Sorensen and Daniel Cook, Eatons Hill</p> <p>Anthony and Gael Jakeman, Gympie</p>

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website: www.queenslandhistory.org	The Society acknowledges financial assistance from: Commonwealth Government Heritage Grants; Qld Government Gambling Community Benefit Fund; Lord Mayor Adrian Shrinner, The Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund; Brisbane City Council; 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