

RHSQ

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

THE RHSQ

Bulletin

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The newsletter of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland
Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC
PSM, Governor of Queensland
President: Dr Denver Beanland AM
Website: www.queenslandhistory.org

In Loving Memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



The Royal Historical Society of Queensland joins with all members of the Commonwealth in mourning the loss of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and expresses our sincere condolences to King Charles III and all members of the Royal Family.

Her Majesty achieved remarkable milestones of being both the longest-serving and the oldest British monarch in history.

We acknowledge her selfless dedication to duty and faithful service that has inspired generations of people over the past 70 years.

Queen Elizabeth II is the only reigning monarch most Australians have known and her long and noble service will forever be remembered.

In February 1959 the prefix “Royal” was added to our Society’s name following Royal approval.

YOUNG'S STATIONERY SHOP, PITTSWORTH



RHSQ Digital Photo Collection P70145f

Pittsworth (near Toowoomba) main street, showing Young's stationery shop.

In front of the shop is a steel-wheeled tractor hauling a wagon with a 1½ ton cheddar cheese that was being transported to the railway station for despatch to London for the World Dairy Show, 1923. According to *The Register* (Adelaide) of 25th October, 1923, reporting on a number of cheese categories, the Kingston (South-East Queensland) Factory won a third prize, but Pittsworth missed out.

President's Report

Members are reminded that it is membership renewal time. I believe that all members would have received a notice, with many already renewing. The Society, a not-for-profit volunteer organisation relies on its members to enable the continuation of its many, functions, responsibilities and activities. If you have not already renewed, I urge you to do so.

The RHSQ publication *James Cook in Queensland* will be launched over the next few weeks as it is now 'hot off the press'. The Society looks forward to having an event for the launch to which all members will be invited. You will receive notice when details are finalised.

The Wednesday Lecture at 12.30 pm on 12 October 2022 is on the topic 120th Anniversary of the State Library of Queensland by Vicki McDonald and Anna Raunik at the Commissariat Store Museum, 115 William Street, Brisbane. Those wishing to attend should book through the RHSQ website under 'Events' on 'Eventbrite'. Members and Non-members are asked to book their seats. The RHSQ looks forward to a large attendance for this important topic.

On Thursday 17 November 2022 at 5.30 pm the Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane, to be followed by the Clem Lack Oration with our guest speaker Dr Margaret Kowald who is the editor of the Society's *Queensland History Journal*. The title of her topic is: *Queensland's struggle against rabbits: How far have we come?* All members of the Society and friends are invited to attend. We ask those wishing to attend to book their seats through the RHSQ website under 'Events' on 'Eventbrite'.

Members should also place in their diaries a date claimer for Saturday 10 December Separation Day celebrations to be held between 6.00 pm and 7.30 pm at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, City.

The RHSQ is always seeking volunteers to assist in the various activities of the Society. The Society is involved with so many different aspects of history, museum and publications to just mention a few matters. Should you be interested please contact the manager, Katrina.

During the last month I launched a publication the *Art of Sacrifice* by George Petrou at the Commissariat Store. This was a private event to which members of the Society were invited. Also, I attended a major Villeneuve and Neurum reunion at the Woodford Historical Society.

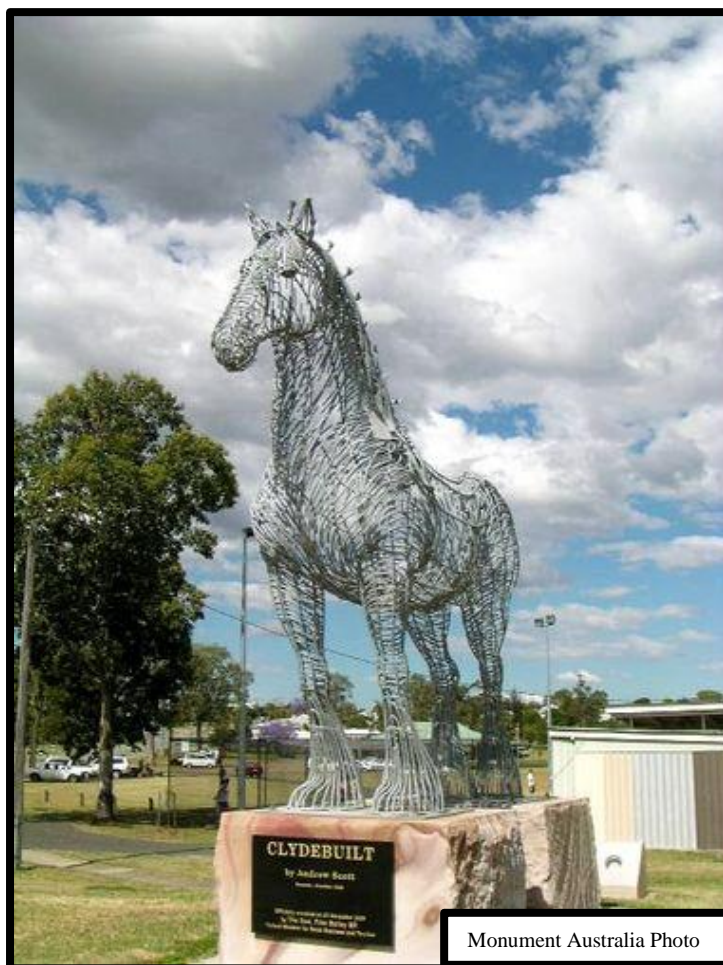
The RHSQ was part of Open House on Sunday 28 August when we opened the doors of the Commissariat Store to the public. A special thanks to all those who gave of their time on the day to staff the Store, especially Ros Lauder who organised the occasion.

I look forward to seeing members and visitors 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)



Monument Australia Photo

Boonah has Clydebuilt as a modern landmark which celebrates the agricultural history of the area. It is fine art in heavy metal at the entry to the Boonah retail area. It has been created by Andrew Scott who came to Boonah in 2004 from Scotland. He built Boonah's heavy horse heritage in the repurposed open sided boiler room of the old Boonah butter factory. Clydebuilt was purchased by the Boonah community for \$20,000. The local Rural Economic Development Institute raised \$5,000 by public donations and contributed \$15,000 from its own funds. The Department of Transport and Main Roads agreed to allow Clydebuilt to stand on its property at the entry to the town. Boonah Shire Council donated the earthworks and lighting and the Institute organised the sandstone blocks from Helidon quarry. Clydebuilt remains in the ownership of a community organisation and was dedicated to local Clydesdale breeders, Pat and Colin Ehrich at Kulgum near Boonah. One of the early Clydesdale studs in Queensland, AW1, was established by Arthur Weinholt at *Maryvale* and *Fassifern* stations.

Almost a decade later Andrew Scott won the commission to sculpt the focal point of the \$40 million The Helix ecopark project beside the canal

link between the Forth and the Clyde canals near Falkirk in Scotland. The work was funded by Scottish Canals, and Kelpies were to represent the shape shifting aquatic spirit of legend which often took the shape of a horse. The Kelpies were also to represent the more modern canal heritage where Clydesdales were used to pull the barges along the canals and work the land. (*The Fassifern Guardian*, 10 August 2022, pp. 1,3 and 4 including three photographs.)

Mount Garnet – *The Australian Financial Review* of 6-7 August 222 included a photograph on page 40 of an Afghan cameleer, Abdul Wade, beside a bull camel. It was included in the recently published book, *The Ballad of Abdul Wade*, by Ryan Butta. My research has indicated that the photograph was taken at Mount Garnet in 1900 before the railway opened to the town, and its smelters which opened on 15 January 1901. His camels plied between Lappa on the Chillagoe Railway and Mount Garnet until the railway opened on 3 April 1902. He had strong connections with pastoral companies and his camels also transported wool in Victoria and New South Wales, copper at Cobar and silver and lead at Broken Hill. He was also involved in introducing

traction engines to cart copper matte from OK to Mungana, the railhead of the Mareeba to Chillagoe railway. Wade's career was a mysterious one and he met with WS Robinson, a director of BHP, in London in 1924. (State Library of Queensland, John Oxley Library Negative No. 11283; Ruth Kerr, *John Moffat of Irvinebank: a biography of a regional entrepreneur* – a mining history of the Cairns Hinterland 1875-1918, St Lucia, JD & RS Kerr, 2000, p. 176)

Noosa Shire Banana Industry – August 2022 was the centenary of when the Noosa Shire was the top banana producing area in Queensland when the area was producing 25% of the state's production. At the time the Tweed Valley banana industry was decimated by banana bunchy top virus. Between 1918 and 1922 Noosa Shire and parts of Widgee Shire and Gympie Town area the banana production grew from 12.9% to 25.6% of Queensland production. Bananas were first grown in the Gympie area at Goomborian in 1908 and at the Maroonda Experimental Station at Amamoor in 1913. The Gympie and District Fruitgrowers Association was formed in 1916. Many growers leased land from farmers and both prospered quickly. Banana case mills were established as required in the districts. The product was sent by train to Brisbane to market. Kin Fruit growers farmers won prizes at the Gympie and Brisbane shows in 1917. Banana growing boomed in the Cooroy district in the 1920s. Banana plantations, case mills, packing sheds and migrant group settlements dotted the landscape. There were Chinese, Indian and Sri Lankan growers. Old Ceylon Road at West Cooroy is named after the Sri Lankans who lived and worked in the area. The Pomona district had a similar history. In 1926 approx 15,000 cases of bananas were railed from Pomona to Brisbane. That year the banana industry was valued at \$1 million in Queensland. By 1932 the industry had declined markedly as the Tweed River banana industry was reinvigorated and the great depression forced farmers out of the industry. (*Noosa Toady*, 26 August 2022, pp. 16-17 including three photographs, one being of a haulage tramway for the bunches).

THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND
NOTICE of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
on THURSDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 5.30PM
at THE COMMISSARIAT STORE, 115 WILLIAM STREET, BRISBANE

AGENDA

1. Opening, Attendance and Apologies
2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting
3. Consideration of the Annual Report of the President
4. Consideration of Audited Annual Financial Statement
5. Election of the President, one Vice President, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and 10 Councillors
6. Appointment of Patron of the Society
7. Appointment of an Honorary Auditor
8. Consideration of any recommendations by the Society's Council of the award of a Fellowship
9. Presentation of Centenary Medals to Beenleigh and District Historical Society, Woodford Historical Society and Ms Audienne Blyth of the Yandina Historical Society.
10. Presentation of Certificates to Society volunteers: Mr Richard Hunt, Mr Dion Rowe and Mr Jeff Zayer.
11. Presentation of Certificates to Members of the Society of more than 50 years standing: Australian Railway Historical Society (Queensland Division), Mr William Heaslop; Beaudesert Historical Society, Ms Judith Weedon, Ipswich Historical Society, Warwick Historical Society, Dr Ian and Mrs Margaret Marsh, Queensland Women's Historical Society, Mr Robert Williams, Dr John and Mrs Susan Slaughter, Mr Ian McConachie OAM.
12. Any other business notified in terms of the Constitution.
13. Close:

The Clem Lack Oration will follow the AGM.

It will be presented by Dr Margaret Kowald on the topic: *Queensland's struggle against rabbits: How far have we come?*

Dr Ruth S. Kerr
 Hon Secretary

**THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND
NOMINATION FORM**

For the election of the President, Vice President, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, and 10 Councillors at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday, 17 November 2022 at 5.30pm at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane with social distancing.

Nominations are required to be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary on or before close of business on 3 November 2022.

Nominations must be signed by 2 (two) financial members of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland and be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee, who must be a financial member.

We nominate

.....
for the office of

Signed

.....
Signed

.....
If elected I agree to act in the position of

.....
Signature

Received by Hon Secretary

Signed:

Date:

Library and Research Report

This month, the following research enquiries were received: photos of an old timber display case of sea shells and a bird of paradise centrepiece that rested on top. This request was forwarded to the Museum Team for further information; copy of Thomas Welsby’s *Discoverers of Brisbane*; Queensland Parliamentary Papers 1877 (Votes and Proceedings); information on Gordon Mackenzie, author of *Fossil Downs: A Saga of the Kimberleys*; record of a person who possibly worked at the Commissariat Store in the late 1830s; information on Aboriginal cultures and the cultural interface with colonists pre-1900, as well as architecture plans for the School of Arts building and for its reconstruction by FDG Stanley for the Queensland National Bank. Donations: Lesley Synge has donated a copy of *Meet Me at the Café; The Story behind the cafes of Gladstone 1900-1970* by Gladstone historian Paulette Flint. It joins a welcome national trend to explore the social and family history behind an enduring institution. That is the café run by families, often of Greek origin, found in most Australian towns and often taken for granted. We have been offered a selection of old newspapers and magazines including *Walkabout* 1955-58, and a souvenir book of the visit to Brisbane of the Duke of Gloucester in 1934. Warren Wagner has donated a framed copy of a coloured sketch of Captain Coley’s house, late 1830s.

With the assistance of Dr. Ian Hadwen, the Library and Research Committee has finalised a priority list of books for conservation as a first step in this process. Volunteer Bo has recently completed the digitisation of over 500 photographs to add to the collection. These are photos for which the library already holds a hard copy.

Mystery Solved

Thanks to Michael Brumby for finding the newspaper article reproduced here. It solved the mystery of the following photo which appeared in a monthly *Bulletin* some time ago. It was from the RHSQ collection but, apart from the description written on the photo, had no other information about date, location or even the story behind the demonstration.



RHSQ Photo

Mining Stretcher (Morning Post (Cairns) 22.08.1907, p.3.)

A mining stretcher arrived from Charters Towers for the local Ambulance Brigade. The stretcher is of peculiar structure, and is intended for bringing injured men up from the depths of the mines. The patient is placed on a stretcher in something like a straight jacket, and is strapped across the legs in various parts, the stretcher being hoisted in an erect position. The stretcher has been found to be of the greatest benefit in getting injured men from the mines; the shaking incidental upon lifting them into the cage being avoided. Yesterday, the Ambulance Superintendent (Mr. M. J. Hogan) and Mr Rheuben, a honorary member of the staff left by train for the West, it being the intention to exhibit the Stretcher on various mining fields, and give demonstrations in first aid. It is also proposed to have the stretcher on exhibition at Mareeba on Saturday next at the annual excursion.

Kay Cohen

<u>IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS</u> <u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NEW MEMBERS</u>														
<p>Wednesday 12 October, Talk, 12.30 – 1.30, ‘120th Anniversary of the State Library of Queensland’ Guest speakers Vicki McDonald & Anna Raunik Booking and more information here. Thursday 13 October, Council Meeting. Saturday 15 October, Bulletin Deadline</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Stephen Maitland</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Red Mile, QLD 4059</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roger Prentice</td> <td>Toowong, QLD 4066</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Michelle Worthington</td> <td>Sheldon, QLD 4157</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Karren Bridge</td> <td>The Gap, QLD 4061</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sophie West</td> <td>Wynnum West, QLD 4178</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ruth Boyce</td> <td>Chapel Hill, QLD 4069</td> </tr> <tr> <td>James Phillips</td> <td>Fitzgibbon, QLD 4018</td> </tr> </table>	Stephen Maitland	Red Mile, QLD 4059	Roger Prentice	Toowong, QLD 4066	Michelle Worthington	Sheldon, QLD 4157	Karren Bridge	The Gap, QLD 4061	Sophie West	Wynnum West, QLD 4178	Ruth Boyce	Chapel Hill, QLD 4069	James Phillips	Fitzgibbon, QLD 4018
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Fax: 07 3221 4698	Fax: 07 3221 4698	Full-time Student (U25): \$ 38.00
email: info@queenslandhistory.org.au	email: info@queenslandhistory.org.au	Affiliated Society: \$ 63.00
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.	Library Member: \$ 75.00
Address: 115 William Street, Brisbane Postal: The Royal Historical Society of Queensland, PO Box 12057, Brisbane, George Street, 4003		Corporate member: \$ 315.00
		Life Membership - Purchased after 10 Years as a Member \$ 5,500.00