

RHSQ

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

THE RHSQ

Bulletin

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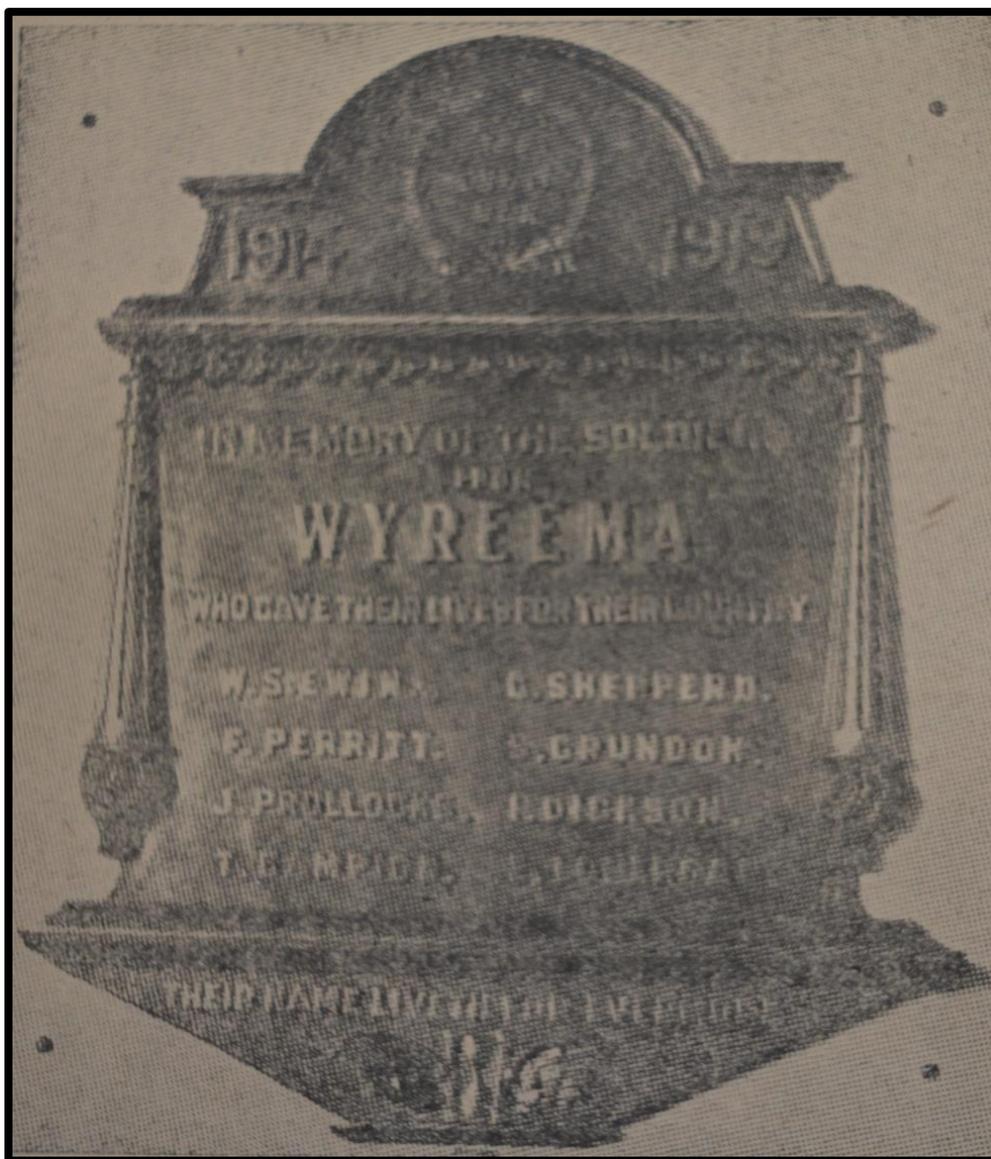
Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC,

Governor of Queensland

President: Dr Denver Beanland AM

Website: www.queenslandhistory.org

Wyreema Honour Board 'Lest We Forget'



Week Photo

The Soldiers' Memorial at Wyreema:

“A handsome tablet of white marble and bronze, erected in Wyreema Hall, in honour of the soldiers from Wyreema who paid the supreme sacrifice. The tablet recently was unveiled by Mr E.W. Bebbington MLA. The names on the tablet are W.S. Ewin, F. Perritt, J. Prollocks, T. Campion, G. Shepperd, S. Grundon, I. Dickson, and E. Lonergan.” (*Week* 17.9.1920, p.16). Wyreema lies 15 km south-west of Toowoomba. It was established in 1887 as a railway junction on the Pittsworth branch line, with the name of Beauarba Junction. This was changed to Wyreema in 1892. It was originally part of the Eton Vale pastoral holding resumed and sub-divided for mostly dairy farm settlement from the 1890s. A direct rail line to Toowoomba opened in 1915, ushering in years of increasing business and community activity. Its slow decline as a prosperous rural centre began with the closure of the cheese factory in 1935.

President’s Report

Members will be delighted to know that His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, patron of the RHSQ, and Mrs Kaye de Jersey have kindly accepted the Society’s invitation to be our special guests at this year’s Queensland Day Dinner on Saturday 5 June at the Brisbane Club. His Excellency has also accepted to be our guest speaker on the occasion. Given his term as Governor expires at the end of July, this will be one of the last occasions on which members and guests will be able to hear His Excellency speak publicly while still Governor. Members and friends of the Society are invited to attend this special occasion. Invitations have been forwarded to all members and are also on the RHSQ website. The RSVP date is 27 May 2021.

The Society’s next Wednesday lecture will be at 12.30 pm on 14 April 2021 at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, City, by David Vann entitled ‘The Pipe Organs of Gympie: Acquired during the Gold Rush’. Members are required to register online to meet COVID-19 requirements. Further details are available on the RHSQ website.

The Burke and Wills Conference celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth in Ireland of Robert O’Hara Burke’ will be held at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, City, on 29 May 2021 commencing at 9.30 am concluding by 1.00 pm. This will be a half day conference with registration commencing at 9.00 am. The conference will provide new material on a range of issues flowing from this tragic journey across the continent. Booking and further information is available on the RHSQ website.

The Griffith Conference held in the Legislative Council Chamber at Parliament House was a great seminar with much new material and interpretation for the first time being revealed about Sir Samuel Walker Griffith one of Queensland’s great colonial public figures who took the Commonwealth stage after federation. These papers will be published later this year in the *Queensland History Journal*.

The Wednesday lecture by both Rodney and Robin Sullivan was a great success, attended by more than 60 people, many of Irish descent. The lecture provided much new, lively material about the Irish in Queensland.

Thanks to a great effort by our volunteers, our visitor numbers to the Commissariat Store, particularly over the coming months, are expected to increase substantially after the COVID-19 lockdowns. The Society looks forward to a busy period for our guides who do such wonderful tours of the Commissariat Store. Members should always encourage visitors to take a tour of Queensland’s oldest habitable building built by convicts. Our thanks to all those who have kept the Commissariat Store open and functioning during the Queen’s Wharf construction project.

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)

Binjour to Cooroy – *Restoration Australia* has produced a program on the relocation and restoration of a 100-year-old farm house from Binjour. It was relocated to Cooroy in 2017 and restored progressively on McPaul’s Road, Cooroy by Jack and Melissa Boyd. It is on the farm of Melissa’s parents, Denis and Daphne Natole. The house was built by Frederick and Bertha Lindenmayer on their Binjour farm. Bertha Cyrach came to Binjour on her own from Germany and met the Lindenmayer family. The Lindemayers lived in the house

until they moved to Burnett Heads. (*Cooroy Rag*, October 2020, p. 2 including two photographs and December 2020, p. 33)

Cooktown – The Cooktown Historical Society has been researching Marton school just west of Cooktown on Endeavour Road and an original station on the Cooktown – Laura Railway (closed in 1961). Without having access to a School Admission Register the Society researchers have identified the Fuller family living in the area in 1899 and attending the school. They have one of William Fuller’s school prize books in their collection. (Email from Cooktown Historical Society, 15 March 2021)

Cooroy – Noosa Shire Council decided (six to one) at its meeting on 15 October 2020 against a redevelopment application for the relocation of a historic house in a Heritage Character Area in Cooroy and the reconfiguring of four allotments situated at 45 and 47A Maple Street and 9 Myall Street, Cooroy for a Material Change of Use – Commercial Business. The house was built by Garden Grant JP an accountant and his wife, Muriel, a member of the Marryat family. It was owned for many years by the Christensen family. The land was originally purchased at auction by Rood Singh in 1909 (*Chronicle and North Coast Advertiser*, 16 October 1909, p.2). He had a butcher shop nearby. (*Cooroy Rag*, October 2020, p.6 including photograph)

Kuranda – Services on the historic Cairns to Kuranda rail have been greatly reduced for COVID19 and safety reasons. Kuranda residents are requesting Queensland Rail to make the service a regular commuter service for workers in Cairns, given the frequent closures of the Cairns Range road due to road accidents. (*Cairns Post*, 16 March 2021, p. 4)

Woolloongabba – The Cross River Rail Delivery Authority will be creating a new ‘Woolloongabba’ Station underground on the site of the old station and rail yards. The wharf was only 500 metres from the Queensland Railways Woolloongabba yard by rail, even less in a straight line, and it was operated from there. In Queensland Railways Working Time Tables and in the departmental *Annual Report*, it was known as Woolloongabba Wharf. After Stanley Street station closed in 1891, the sidings there were effectively part of Woolloongabba Wharf. Queensland Railways owned all the contiguous wharf space there. The wharves were thus also referred to at times as the Railway Wharf. (Greg Hallam Email February 2021; John Kerr, *Triumph of Narrow Gauge: a history of Queensland Railways*, Brisbane, Boolarong, 1998)

HERITAGE

On 17 February 2021 the Department of Environment and Science (the Department) received an application proposing entry of *Linden Lea*, 40 Archer Street, Toowong in the Queensland Heritage Register (Heritage Register) as a State Heritage Place.

Library and Research Report

This month, requests for information on the following topics were received: South African War Memorial in Anzac Square, Brisbane; *Northam House*, Brisbane, and accountant J.P. Macfarlane; Karrabin State School (Ipswich, 1932-1958); Tso Mu Chen, Honorary Consul for China in Brisbane 1943-1971 (when Taiwan, not mainland China, was recognised by the United Nations); Flight Sergeant Bernard James Sutton from Brisbane, a downed airman who escaped to Britain through the Netherlands during World War Two; assistance in restoration project for church stained glass windows; 1857 massacre at Hornet Bank station, Dawson River; cottage in West End, Brisbane; house in Corella St., South Brisbane, during World War Two; centenary of Western Suburbs District Cricket Club, Graceville Memorial Park, Brisbane; the role of private home, *Nyrambla*, Ascot, Brisbane, in Intelligence activities during World War Two; Lennon’s Hotel in World War Two. Donations: thanks to Bill Smith for his recent publication, *A Brief History of Rostrum Queensland 1937-2020*, and Redlands Museum for the programme of the Citizens Memorial Service for King Edward VII, 1910.

The Library has been offered a copy of the newspaper *The Patriot* dated 31st May 1925. It was found during renovations to a farmhouse built in 1922. *The Patriot* is not on the list of Trove’s online newspapers. Elizabeth Nunn has researched the history of the paper and its well-known editor. *The Patriot* was first published in Maryborough in 1892 by three members of the growing Labour party, later the Australian Labor Party (ALP), W. Adam, W. Mitchell, and J. Murray. In 1893 they were joined by Irvine (Jack) Perel who soon became its Editor. Perel was born in Ararat, Victoria, in 1872 moving to Queensland as an electrical engineer. While *The Patriot* had started in Maryborough, in 1898 Perel moved it to Bundaberg. At this time Perel met Sydney newspaper proprietor John Norton and together they started the Brisbane *Truth* in 1899. Perel took charge of the new paper and conducted it locally while Norton was in Sydney but there were disagreements and they soon parted company. This led Perel to bring *The Patriot* to Brisbane. Perel was active in

politics and in 1922 he accepted nomination to the Upper House in Queensland. He died in October 1928. There is some conjecture regarding his true birth date and age. This is not surprising as he seems to have been a near legendary character in Southern Queensland. On his death the Brisbane *Truth* reported it as 1872. This made him just 21 when he joined *The Patriot* in 1893. An obituary in Rockhampton's *Morning Bulletin* of 27 October 1928 gave his age at death as 66, meaning that he was born in 1862. According to the same obituary, he had moved to Queensland as an electrical engineer after being chosen by the Postal Department to supervise the establishment of the first telephone system in North Queensland. This exchange was indeed located at Maryborough but it was completed in 1882. Given the *Truth's* date of birth of 1872, this would have made Perel just 10 years old. Clearly the earlier birth date is more likely if Perel had been involved in the commissioning of the exchange in 1882 at age 20. That he was specifically appointed to supervise it seems an overstatement given his age.

A reader, "an Old Southportonian" has advised the authors of a mistake in *Lost Brisbane and Surrounding Districts 1860-1960*. In the text accompanying an aerial photo of the Jubilee Bridge, Southport, 1928, on page 312, the Southport Hotel to the left of the bridge was wrongly identified as the Pacific Hotel.

Kay Cohen
Library & Research Co-ordinator

Remembering our Veterans on ANZAC Day 2021 For the fallen

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.**

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables at home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

Laurence Binyon (1869–1943)

Talk for April

Please book your free ticket for the talk on Wednesday 14 April at 12.30pm.

It will be on *The Pipe Organs of Gympie: Acquired during the Gold Rush*.

It will be delivered by David Vann.

David Vann started his interest in pipe organs as a student at Brisbane Grammar School. He commenced lessons with Brisbane organist Archie Day, and by the time he left BGS he was the organist at a church at Eagle Junction. He retired from playing on a regular basis when he was the organist and choirmaster of a city church. The history of the organs of Queensland has been a long passion of his and a lot of his research is listed in publications.

Call for Papers and Speakers

During the coming year the Society is embarking upon and undertaking a comprehensive and interesting lecture program in order to further enhance the objects of the Society in the dissemination and appreciation of Queensland history to members and the public, and to greater involve members in the camaraderie of the Society by conducting such activities in a convivial social atmosphere.

In order to assist in such an undertaking, it is necessary for the Society to increase its ready pool of suitable and willing speakers, and hence this call for the nomination of speakers and topics that you as a member would appreciate being discussed.

Should you be willing to personally present a paper or talk or if you would like to nominate a prospective speaker, please email info@queenslandhistory.org.au with the following information:

Name:

Email:

Phone no.:

Suggested speaker:

Email:

Phone no.:

Suggested topic:

Michael Halliday
Program Committee Chair

Pimpama State School in Display

On the next page is a photograph of Pimpama State School in 1878. The name Pimpama is of aboriginal origin, there being several versions of its translation - 'place of soldier birds', 'place of magpie larks' or as a corruption of Bim Bim Ba 'place of many birds'. It is pronounced with the stress on the first syllable, and short 'a' in the second - PIM-pa-ma.

A school reserve for Pimpama was gazetted by the government on 30 October 1871. Mr. Robert Gillin of Yatala built the school and teacher's residence at a cost of £212 using pit sawn timber and a shingle roof. The school opened on 15 April 1872 with an enrolment of 26 students.

Distance remained a challenge for some pupils who had no means of transport to and from the school. Parents soon requested that a dormitory be built to help with these youngsters. This dormitory was completed in 1873 and initially had four residents plus the teacher's children. The parents of the boarders supplied a cow so that the children would have milk. When the dormitory was no longer needed it became another classroom.

This school is featured in a new display being assembled in the northernmost vitrine on the first floor of the Commissariat Store replacing the WWI display, the main contents of which have been transferred on loan to The Beenleigh Historical Village and Museum.



JOL Photo 96327

Pimpama State School ca. 1878

IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

APRIL

Thursday 8 April, Council Meeting.
Wednesday 14 April, Talk 12.30 pm, *The Pipe Organs of Gympie: Acquired during the Gold Rush* by Peter Vann.
Thursday 15 April, *Bulletin* deadline.
Sunday 25 April, ANZAC Day.

NEW MEMBERS

Ashton Tucker	Ashgrove
David Bedford and Jennifer Stuerzl	Chelmer
Brett Mason	Teneriffe
Jonathan and Kay Douglas	Brisbane
Cathie Sherwood	Capalaba

Contact Details	Bulletin Articles Only	Subscriptions
Manager: Sophie West	Editor: Dr Graeme Nicholson	Ordinary Member: \$ 66.00
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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	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