



RHSQ

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

THE RHSQ

Bulletin

80 years of continuous publication

MAY 2022 No. 873

The newsletter of The Royal Historical Society of Queensland
Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young PSM,
Governor of Queensland

President: Dr Denver Beanland AM
Website: www.queenslandhistory.org

AN UNEXPECTED DISCOVERY!

While looking for archival material relevant to a research enquiry, the library and research team came across a treasure. It comprises four volumes of journals/cutting books compiled by Lieutenant (Temp) F. G. Newton. We have only had time so far to delve into Volume One. In it are the following photographs, two of many he took during his time in Egypt. Lt. Newton wrote a daily diary of his service with the 5th Light Horse, from the training camp at Pinkenba, Brisbane, to Egypt on S.S. *Itria*, at the Maadi Camp and during the Gallipoli campaign. The second part of the volume is filled with newspaper cuttings covering the Gallipoli campaign. We look forward to examining the other three volumes.

Kay Cohen



Lt. F.G. Newton Photo

A group from the 5th Australian Light Horse Regiment (Queensland)

Taken at Enoggera Camp, Feb.8. 1915

They sailed from Pinkenba Brisbane on S.S. *Itria* Feb 10. 1915, for Suez, via Thursday Island, Colombo and Aden.



Lt. F.G. Newton Photo

Maadi Camp, Egypt, 1915.
My men in shorts for the first time.

A Short History of the 5th Light Horse Regiment



The 5th Light Horse Regiment was raised in Brisbane in September 1914, entirely from men who had enlisted in Queensland, and became part of the 2nd Light Horse Brigade. Sailing from Sydney on 21 December 1914, the regiment disembarked in Egypt on 1 February 1915.

The light horse were considered unsuitable for the initial operations at Gallipoli, but were subsequently deployed without their horses to reinforce the infantry.

The 2nd Light Horse Brigade landed in late May 1915 and was attached to the 1st Australian Division. The 5th Light Horse played a defensive role for most of the campaign but was involved in several minor attacks. It left the peninsula on 20 December 1915.

Back in Egypt, the 2nd Light Horse Brigade became part of the ANZAC Mounted Division and in February 1916 joined the forces defending the Suez Canal from a Turkish advance across the Sinai Desert.

The 5th Light Horse's main activity in the Sinai was long-range patrolling, but it was involved in several small engagements during August, as the Turks retreated after their defeat at Romani.

The ANZAC Mounted Division advanced into Palestine in late December 1916. The 5th's work predominantly continued to be patrols and raids until the advance stalled before the Turkish bastion of Gaza. The regiment participated in all three battles aimed at capturing the town, most notably the first abortive attempt on 27 March 1917. On this occasion the 5th attacked Gaza from the rear and was fighting its way through streets and gardens when ordered to withdraw.

With the fall of Gaza on 7 November 1917, the Turkish position in southern Palestine collapsed. The 5th was involved in the pursuit that followed, and then spent much of the first half of 1918 holding the west bank of the Jordan River. During this time it was involved in the Amman (24-27 February) and Es Salt (30 April-4 May) raids, both of which were tactical failures but helped to convince the Turks that the next offensive would be launched across the Jordan.

Instead, the offensive was launched along the coast in September 1918, with the 5th taking part in a subsidiary effort east of the Jordan. It attacked at Amman on 25 September, and on 29 September 4,500 Turks surrendered to just two squadrons from the regiment at Ziza. Turkey surrendered on 31 October 1918, but the 5th Light Horse was employed one last time to assist in putting down the Egyptian revolt of early 1919. It sailed for home on 28 June 1919.

LEST WE FORGET!

President's Report

The Society's manager Sophie West bids us farewell on Friday 22 April 2022 as she takes up a career opportunity. We wish her every success and happiness in her new curatorial role, in which she has professional qualifications, at the Queensland Museum. Sophie has been a wonderful manager for the Society.

Your Council on 14 April appointed Katrina Rose also originally from England as our new manager. Katrina will commence work on Tuesday 19 April to allow her a week to learn the various aspects of the role. The Society looks forward to a successful and happy working relationship with Katrina.

Our next Wednesday Lecture is at 12.30 pm on 11 May 2022 at the Commissariat Store with barrister Stephen Sheaffe AM, immediate past president of the RHSQ talking on *Lady Cilento: A Pioneer in Child and Maternal Health*. Would those planning to attend please book through Eventbrite. Members of course are free but non-members are required to pay \$10.

Our next conference *Hidden Toils – The Contribution of Chinese Australians to the Early Development of Queensland* will be held on Saturday 28 May 2022 at the Commissariat Store, 115 William Street, Brisbane. It will be an all-day conference held in collaboration with Chinese Heritage in North Australia Inc commencing at 9 am. Again, all those wishing to attend must book through Eventbrite which is on the RHSQ website under 'Events' where there is further information on all forthcoming activities.

The Society's annual Queensland Day Dinner will be held this year on Monday 6 June 2022 at Tattersall's Club, 215 Queen Street, Brisbane with drinks at 6.30 pm followed by a 7 pm commencement. The cost this year will be members of the RHSQ \$145 and non-members \$155. Bookings through Eventbrite which is on the RHSQ website under 'Events'. The guest speaker will be barrister Anthony 'Tony' Morris QC speaking on *The Other Revolution of November 1917: "George Street Incident" and its Aftermath*.

The e-Hive Cataloguing/Collection Management System on which to store details, including history, of the Society's Museum Collection is now installed and operating. As members are aware, the RHSQ has an outstandingly significant museum collection. Unfortunately, the current system is broken and is no longer capable of maintaining the museum collection. Over the coming months volunteers will commence inputting the data.

A Joint Historical Seminar between the RHSQ and the Queensland Parliament to commemorate the *Centenary of the Abolition of the Legislative Council* was held on Saturday 19 March 2022 in the Red Chamber at the Queensland Parliament, with an optional lunch in the Strangers' Dining Room offered to attendees. The event was a great success with our Patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Janet Young PSM, Governor of Queensland, opening the seminar and Mr Speaker, the Honourable Curtis Pitt MP, welcoming all guests. A special thanks to Janet Prowse, a member of the Society, convenor of the conference and her Queensland Parliamentary staff and those of the RHSQ who assisted on the day. The speakers at the half-day conference were: Mrs Lynne Armstrong, Dr Denver Beanland AM, Emeritus Professor Kay Saunders AO, Dr Gerard Carney and Mr Neil Laurie, Clerk of the Parliament.

The RHSQ has one seat left on the bus for the Burke and Wills Dig Tree Trip between 7 and 10 October this year. Anyone interested please reserve your seat on the bus by payment to the Society of the \$305 seat price. For further details please contact the Society's manager.

Join in the RHSQs many occasions in which to greet and meet new and not so new faces. I look forward to meeting 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)

Chillagoe town is prospering with the current influx of construction workers involved in the road construction and providing asphalt and bitumen on the remaining gravel sections between Almaden and Chillagoe. The town has an excellent Court House Museum which is opened by the Police Officer on week days. On visiting the Chillagoe smelter site it is clear that the road to the smelter observation site is washed out by recent rains. The Mareeba Council grader was observed on the Burke Development Road west of Mungana towards the Walsh River. Not far west of the Chillagoe smelter site on the Zillmanton Road there is still a Railway Crossing sign with Give Way triangle and rails still in situ, after the line was closed in 1992. Leading into the smelter site there are still rails in place dating from 1900, stamped as below:

BARROW STEEL 1900 S 500 42 LBS C R & M LTD
 BARROW STEEL 7/1907 SEC84 C C° LTD BA STEEL 41¼ LBS

in the name of the private company who built the railway from Mareeba to Chillagoe – Chillagoe Company Limited and Chillagoe Railway and Mines Limited (reconstructed company). (Observations on 31 March 2022 by Ruth Kerr on a personal visit).

Almaden – The *Savanalander* tourist two car rail motor was observed at Almaden station on 30 March 2022. The station was locked up. The travellers had been bused to Chillagoe to stay overnight and visit the caves the next morning. The crew quarters at Almaden have been partly unroofed in a recent storm. The railway water tank from steam days is still in situ. (Ruth Kerr personal observations on 30 March 2022).



Ruth Kerr Photo

Deebing Heights near Ipswich – Skeletal remains believed by local Indigenous people to be human have been found on the AV Jennings development site at 144 Grampian Drive, Deebing Heights near the old Deebing Creek Aboriginal Reserve which operated from the 1880s to 1915. AV Jennings is currently marketing 186 land sites as part of Deebing Springs development and plans to build a shopping centre. Samples of the skeletal remains have been sent to the Australian National University for scientific examination and carbon dating. Professor David Lambert, head of the Ancient DNA and Genomics at the Australian Research for Human Evolution at Griffith University has taken samples from the site. AV Jennings and the Yuggera Ugarapul Peoples (YUP) have been consulting about the cultural heritage values of the site for four years. A Cultural Heritage Management Plan over the site was agreed between YUP and AV Jennings in April 2019 and was approved by the Queensland government a month later. The area surrounding the new homes is heavily vegetated with eucalypts, swamp tea tree and Melaleuca. (*The Ipswich Tribune*, 30 March 2022, pp. 1,3 and 4 April 2022, pp. 1,3,4).

Ipswich – The oldest part of the Ipswich General Cemetery is being surveyed by ground penetrating radar. The earliest burials are believed to have been from the 1840s. Headstones were moved in the 1970s to make maintenance easier. The mayor of the Ipswich Council stated that the Ipswich General Cemetery Heritage Project will develop a conceptual design for a new area to re-house and integrate the existing memorials into the new landscape and consider internment opportunities for remains. The Ipswich Council has stated that it will consult with the public and descendants of those who were buried there. (*The Ipswich Tribune*, 30 March 2022, p. 6 including photograph).

Mareeba - The 80th anniversary celebrations for the Mareeba Airport are being planned for May 2022. One idea is a mural. The Far North Queensland Aviation Museum is seeking information from the public on the history of airport. Information may be sent to email: admin@fnqam.com.au. (Mareeba Express, 30 March 2022, p. 5 including photograph)

Tablelands Regional Council has announced a list of 17 community buildings which it owns in the shire and wishes to dispose of or repurpose. In the Shire [Community Facilities Strategy 2019–29](#) covering the shire’s 300 buildings the 17 were identified as end-of-life, underutilised or surplus to community needs. Many are historic buildings including the Herberton Shire Chambers (centre of a former shire) and Mount Garnet Town Hall. The remainder are: Atherton Community Centre (Mabel Steet), Atherton Community Centre | Tableland Dog Obedience Club | club house | storage shed, Atherton CWA Hall, Atherton Hallorans Hill building, Atherton SES shed, Butchers Creek Hall, Herberton Tennis Club, Malanda Majestic Theatre, Malanda School of the Arts building, Millaa Millaa Golf Club, Millaa Millaa RSL Hall, Millaa Millaa Sporting Hall, Mount Garnet SES shed, Ravenshoe Marshall Park | Judo Club House and Ravenshoe RSL building. The Council has stated that it will undertake public consultation on some of the buildings. (Mareeba Express, 30 March 2022; <https://www.trc.qld.gov.au/future-of-community-assets/>).

Woodford – Australian Narrow Gauge Museum Society is celebrating its 50 years jubilee this year and has had a member, Mr Bob Gough, serve on the board for 50 years. The Society has also encountered the challenge of current price escalation in steel prices and delays in completing the extension of its workshop under a Gambling Community Benefit Fund grant. (Annual General Meeting on 26 March 2022) .



Australian Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Woodford Photo

Old No5 ready to go

On the first and third Sundays of each month, you can take a ride on a historical train. This unique experience runs along the Woodford Railway, or locals know it as “Durundur Railway”. Enjoy taking in the sights of Woodford as you travel along the historical railway to Storey Brook.

Margaret St, Woodford QLD. (07) 5496 1976

Library and Research Report

Research enquiries for the month were as follows: information on a possible student at Tallegalla State School, 1901-02; Lovekins, the Brisbane jewellers who may have fashioned the original badges for Brisbane Boys Grammar School and Brisbane Girls Grammar School; the family of Captain Francis Hixson VD RN, especially the 2nd son, Edward Manwell Hixson, born 12.11.1863, variously described as commanding marine defence in Brisbane, in Queensland naval defence, and in a Bundaberg marine company; assistance for an international voluntary organisation to develop history tours of Dutton Park cemetery, Boggo Rd jail, the Princess Theatre and surrounding areas; Princes Restaurant; Old Government Printery, George St.; history of houses in Sword St., Woollongabba, and nearby factories for a Netflix documentary. The Library has been offered a donation of newspaper clippings, photographs, copies of photographs and other information on the early history of Manumbar Station and the people that lived there. Graham is making steady progress digitising the Family section of the cutting files, and Helen and Bo-Zhang are digitising more of the numerous portrait photographs in the Library collection. Recently, three of our 'tech-savvy' volunteers left to go back to University studies or take up employment. This has brought to a halt some of the more delicate digitisation projects. We hope in the near future to have more volunteers so we can resume these projects.

Kay Cohen

<u>IMPORTANT EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS</u> <u>MAY</u>	<u>NEW MEMBERS</u>
<p>Wednesday 11 May, Talk 12.30-1.30 Stephen Sheaffe will present a lecture on <i>Lady Cilento – a Pioneer in Child and Maternal Health</i>.</p> <p>Thursday 12 May, Council Meeting.</p> <p>Monday 16 May, Bulletin deadline.</p> <p>Saturday 28 May, Our next conference <i>Hidden Toils – The Contribution of Chinese Australians to the Early Development of Queensland</i> will be held at the Commissariat Store,</p>	<p>Beverly Wood, Carlton South VIC Benjamin Phipps, Black Mountain Pauline Harvey-Short, Ashgrove Glen Maynard, Scarborough James Wakefield, Clontarf James McKay, Brisbane City Bruce McCallum, Coorparoo Bruce Breslin, Trinity Beach Meagan Kartus, Macleay Island Friends of South Brisbane Cemetery, Fairfield</p>

Contact Details	Bulletin Articles Only	Subscriptions
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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		Corporate member: \$ 315.00
Postal: The Royal Historical Society of Queensland, PO Box 12057, Brisbane, George Street, 4003		Life Membership - Purchased after 10 Years as a Member \$ 5,500.00