NEWSLETTER

The latest from History Queensland Inc and members

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Patron: Shauna Hicks OAM, MA, Grad Dip Lib Sc, Dip FHS, FQFHS

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ASSISTANCE OFFERED AGAIN FOR MEMBERS TO REGISTER AS CHARITIES

Member organisations which are not registered as incorporated not-for-profit groups and have an ABN are required by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) to undertake an annual self-review for the ATO.

In late 2024 Valerie Thornton, the HQ Secretary, coordinated bulk registration as charities for some members which did not already have that status, thereby eliminating the requirement that they undertake the self-review required by the ATO.

In the June newsletter, following an offer of help from the ACNC, we invited interested members to contact the HQ Secretary about registering as a charity. Unfortunately, Valerie was then absent on extended sick leave and so nothing was done, although we did have a couple of members who may have been interested.

Happily, Valerie is back on deck and HQ proposes to provide a similar service for the assistance of members which are not already registered as incorporated not-for-profit groups.

If your organisation is interested in registering as a charity, please advise Valerie at secretary@historyqueensland.org.au. The deadline for indicating your interest in joining this exercise is Sunday 15 November 2026.

HISTORY QUEENSLAND 6-MONTHLY MEETING – SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2026

Date: Saturday, 28 November 2026, registration from 9.30am

Host and venue: Genealogy Sunshine Coast, Resource Centre, Petrie Park Rd (opposite the swimming pool), 07 5329 2315

Bookings required by: 20 November

Cost: $20 for teas and lunch

This will be a hybrid meeting: attendance by Zoom will be available.

Watch for further information from the HQ Secretary.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO COMMITTEE, 13 OCTOBER

BIENNIAL STATE CONFERENCE

Spoke to and emailed Alistair Henderson of GSQ/Genealogy Queensland about the possibility of History Queensland becoming involved in the 50th anniversary year conference.

This would be a perfect opportunity for HQ to support one of Queensland's premier genealogical societies in not only promoting the Society, but genealogy in general and we are looking forward to hearing back from Alistair.

STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

I'm pleased to report that Charlotte Sale and I have completed the analysis of the 'Build a Stronger Future for Queensland's History' survey and the results show that members value HQ most for practical essentials, particularly public liability insurance, grant funding information and the quarterly newsletter. The biggest challenge members identified is sustaining their volunteer base and membership.

Most respondents said they need nothing further from HQ, although we recognise that volunteer shortages and limited resources may mean some members haven't yet identified needs they have.

A summary of the findings will be shared with our members shortly and the survey will now inform HQ's strategy development, alongside the committee's knowledge of the sector.

UPCOMING EVENTS

On 20 October I will be attending the National Archives of Australia Queensland Consultative Forum which is always a welcome opportunity to learn more about the key priorities of NAA as well as meet and chat with other key representatives of Queensland heritage organisations.

MEMBER VISITS

On 19 November I will be attending the final meeting for 2026 of Wynnum Manly Historical Society which is being held at the Queensland Ambulance Museum where I will give a presentation about History Queensland and its composition, work and future planning.

Sally Romano
President, History Queensland

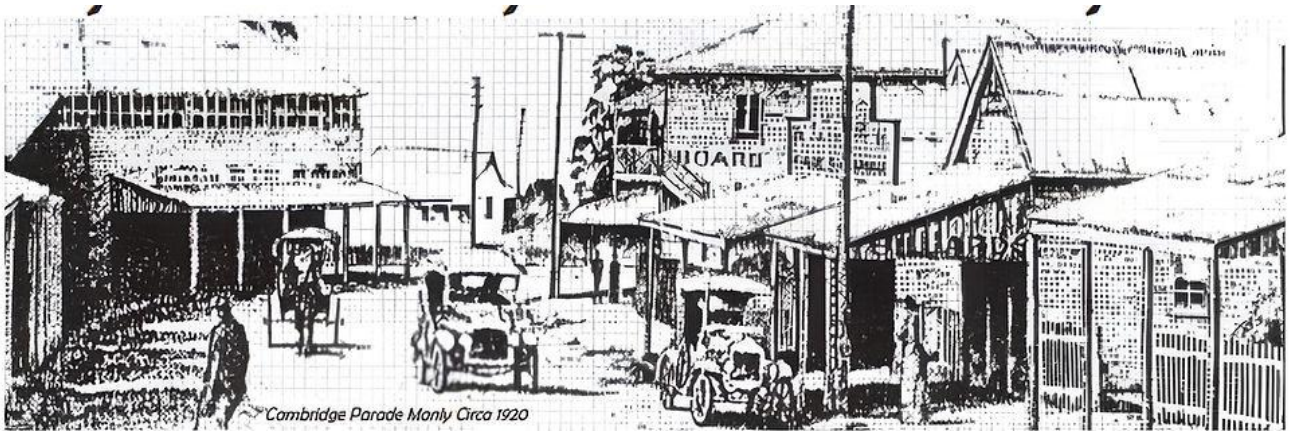


Image from Wynnum Manly Historical Society's website, https://www.wmhs.org.au/ .

BUILDING A STRONGER FUTURE FOR QUEENSLAND'S HISTORY – HISTORY QUEENSLAND'S SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you for having your say in History Queensland's 'Building a Stronger Future for Queensland's History' survey.

In total, 53 organisations responded and we appreciate the fact that you gave up valuable time to share your organisation's views. The responses have given the committee a clearer picture of what matters to you.

Most responses came from local history groups (18) and family history groups (13), along with museums, cemetery groups and a range of smaller specialist organisations. They came from rural and remote areas, Brisbane, and major regional centres – so the results reflect the breadth of Queensland's history community.

The key findings

1. HQ's largest constituency is small to mid-sized heritage organisations. Groups with 10 to 75 members made up about 53% of respondents.
2. You value the essentials. Public liability insurance (about 84%) and grant funding information (about 68%) topped the list. The quarterly newsletter was the channel most members expect to use (about 68%).
3. People are your biggest challenge. Attracting volunteers, committee members and new members was named more often than any other need.
4. No request doesn't always mean no need. Many of you said you needed nothing right now. The committee knows some needs only become visible once a problem arrives, so it won't treat silence as a sign that all is well.

What happens next

The HQ committee will hold a strategy meeting on 9 December to set key priorities using your feedback as a major input.

In the meantime, you can still contact the committee with ideas or concerns which the survey didn't capture. Your voice shapes where HQ puts its energy.

Sally Romano
President, History Queensland

VALE TERRY RYAN

It is with great sadness that History Queensland farewells Terry Ryan, whose contribution to family and local history in Queensland spanned more than three decades.

Terry's involvement began around 1993, when he joined the Enoggera local family history society. His commitment to the wider genealogical community deepened on 15 July 1995, when he attended a meeting at the State Library, called by Heather Wort, to discuss forming a State association for family and local history societies. Terry immediately volunteered for the steering committee that went on to establish the Queensland Association of Local and Family History Societies (QALFHS).

In 1996, Terry took on the role of newsletter editor for QALFHS News, producing the first edition in April of that year. In 1996 he was also elected president of the Genealogical Society of Queensland (GSQ).

Terry served on the QALFHS management committee and was elected President from May 2004 to August 2005. During his presidency, he was instrumental in leading the change of name from QALFHS to History Queensland and in drafting the organisation's new constitution, shaping the association members know today.

He also played a key role in running the Family and Local History Fairs, held every two years at the Mount Gravatt showgrounds, from the first on 10 May 1998 through to 3 September 2006.

Terry's decades of dedicated service helped build History Queensland into what it is today. He will be greatly missed by the family and local history community he did so much to support.

Christmas, 2024

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2026-27

President	Sally Romano	president@historyqueensland.org.au
Secretary	Valerie Thornton	secretary@historyqueensland.org.au
Treasurer	Fay Carbis	treasurer@historyqueensland.org.au
Committee members	Jacqui Brock	jacquirosebrock@gmail.com
	Clive Porritt	newsletter@historyqueensland.org.au
	Claire Rodwell	assistantsecretary@gsq.org.au
	Charlotte Sale	qfhs.mc15@qfhs.org.au
	Helen Turner	insurance@historyqueensland.org.au
	Chris Wright	coolgenealogy@gmail.com

MIEGUNYAH HOUSE MUSEUM, BOWEN HILLS – VISIT BY REDCLIFFE

On 3 July, members of History Redcliffe, of which I am one, went on an excursion to the above museum. We were greeted by the very knowledgeable volunteers who served us with a delightful morning tea which consisted of scones with jam and cream, plus tea and coffee which came in Royal Albert cups. The tables were set with a lace cloth.

Miegunyah is a heritage-listed house in Bowen Hills which was built by William Perry as a residence for his son, William Herbert Perry and his wife, Leila Markwell. After the Perry family sold the house to the Menzies family, it continued to be used as a residence until World War II when it was requisitioned by the Australian Government as a safe house for Z Special Force Unit. After the war, it was converted into flats.

In 1967, the house was then acquired by the Queensland Women's Historical Association who restored the house and is still using it to preserve the history of the period. Miegunyah House was built 140 years ago in 1886 around the time my grandfather was born.

From the President's Section in *The First Settlement City Gazette*, the Journal of the Redcliffe & District Family History Group Inc, July 2026.

18th AFFHO CONGRESS ON FAMILY HISTORY – WELLINGTON, NZ, 11-14 FEB 2027

Information about flight discounts through Qantas and (via a link) Air New Zealand is available from https://affhocongress.org/discounts/ .

The same page refers to deals made with Wellington hotels:

There are many different places to stay in Wellington. You will find one to suit your budget and required facilities.

We have arranged deals with the following hotels:

Rydges Hotel Deal
Accor Hotels Deal – Accor have the IBIS, Sofitel and Novotel Hotels. If you require extra days, book the deal days and then then contact the hotel to arrange more
James Cook Grand Chancellor Deal

RECRUITING AND RETAINING VOLUNTEERS: THE RHSQ'S SUCCESS

(This article appeared in *Historical Society Matters*, the newsletter of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies, no 63, September 2026.)

A volunteer workforce does not operate out of obligation, and the success of the RHSQ's recent 'volunteership' initiative demonstrates the power of a positive workplace culture and close inter-personal relationships. Over the past few years, the RHSQ has been fortunate enough to be home to many diligent and personable volunteers, eager to impart their love for Queensland's history to students, other locals and tourists to the Sunshine State. This article outlines different steps undertaken by different members of the RHSQ community.

Several long-term volunteers have fostered strong relationships within their team, which not only provides motivation for the team to continue its work at the RHSQ, but allows for more effective communication between team members as they delegate tasks to ensure all work is handled efficiently. The 'team' element also allows volunteers to play to their strengths, increasing the quality of the service that the RHSQ can offer, with some of the volunteers with more experience being easily able to work independently.

Managers of volunteers almost certainly know that 'getting volunteers in the door' is only 'step one' of a process, and not the goal in and of itself. The purpose of a community organisation is often a shared commitment to something that the members hold and value in common but, at the end of the day, if volunteers do not enjoy their time while working for the organisation, then all else is rendered moot.

Clear to most managers of volunteers is the pleasure and wisdom in giving volunteers the time that they deserve; the hugely important 'human' element. From a business perspective, the time given is an investment in the future of the organisation. If a volunteer is happy, trained, and experienced, then they will be reliable day after day, and able to train other volunteers.

A manager must be one who values the volunteers as individuals by taking time out of any busy schedule to speak with and listen to them.

For any managers elsewhere who are struggling to find and keep volunteers, I would recommend the following strategies:

- Cast a wide net when searching. Some volunteers look for opportunities on a variety of websites, so taking time to sign up for Seek, Volunteering Queensland (as an example), and other such websites is worthwhile
- Ask existing volunteers if they have any friends who might be willing to come along as well
- If learning of a promising candidate, a phone call or interview is better than an emailed approach, because it:
  - allows you to assess how personable the potential volunteer may be, which could be important if the need is for a front-of-house role
  - brings to the surface a passion for a particular topic – which others will notice and could work with, too
- Offer potential volunteers a tour of your premises and show them all aspects of your society's facilities
- Provide the society's backstory with education material to read in their own time (if relevant)

and

- Allow new volunteers to learn via experience by shadowing a more experienced counterpart. Theoretical knowledge is important, but practical knowledge will translate it into actionable skills all the more relevant to your society and its needs.

Good luck!

Hannah Watson
Manager RHSQ

GUIDED HISTORY WALKS – SANDGATE & DISTRICT MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The museum has hosted five very successful walks in 2026 with the last one for the year, the Bald Hills Cemetery walk, held on 26 September. Many thanks to our Acting President, volunteer, researcher, guide, Pattie, for her endless hours spent on presenting these walks.
Our Flinders Parade walks finish with a delicious morning tea on the verandah of well-known Sandgate house, Meridian.

The entertaining Bald Hills Cemetery walk is followed by a picnic morning tea in the grounds.

Due to popular demand, we plan to recommence these walks in the autumn of 2027.
Please follow us on Facebook, Instagram and our Website for further details:
https://www.sandgatemuseum.com.au

Adapted from the Society's *Newsletter*, September 2026, vol 3.

PORT OF MARYBOROUGH ARRIVALS – MARYBOROUGH FAMILY HERITAGE INSTITUTE

Many family historians tracking Queensland ancestors eventually find their way to the Port of Maryborough where over 22,000 immigrants arrived in the latter half of the 1800s.

The Maryborough Family Heritage Research Institute Inc. has compiled and published an extensive collection of books detailing these individual ship voyages. Our publications include:

- The ship's passenger list and definitions used for types of passengers.
- Biographical anecdotes and family histories of specific passengers.
- Excerpts from passenger diaries and historical newspaper articles.
- Duties of the ship's crew.

Recent releases include dedicated volumes for ships like the *Roma* and the *Gulf of Carpentaria* that arrived in Maryborough in 1885. Some classics include earlier voyages such as the *Ariadne*, *Herschel*, *Alardus*, *St James* and many more.

A full list of our available titles and pricing can be found on our website, http://www.treeroots.com.au/
If you would like to purchase copies of the books for your personal research or to enrich your society's reference library, please get in touch with us.

From *Heritage Happenings*, the newsletter of the Maryborough Family Heritage Institute Inc, vol 37 issue 2, September 2026.

LAUNCH OF THE EXHIBITION ‘REMEMBERING THE WOMEN OF EARLY MALENY’ – PRESENTED BY FRIENDS OF PATTEMORE HOUSE

On 3 October, I went to Maleny to attend the launch by Friends of Pattemore House of their exhibition ‘Remembering the Women of Early Maleny.’

The society received a History Queensland Small Grant to produce ten corflute printed panels and metal A frames to reveal the stories of nine women from the Maleny district (1879-1886). As the HQ rep I was honoured to open the exhibition.

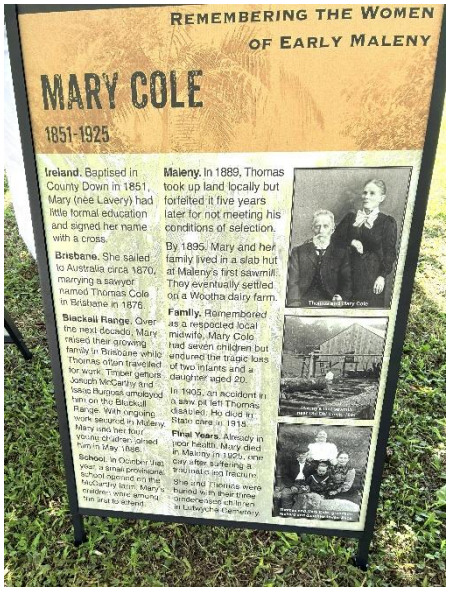
It was a great pleasure to be involved in this event on a beautiful spring morning in the grounds of the historic home 'Fairview' (Pattemore House). The launch of the exhibition was in the garden under the shade of a huge mulberry tree – hence the shadows on the panels!

The stories of each of the women on the panels are inspirational, despite the many hardships they went through. It is wonderful that all they endured in those early years will not be forgotten as the lives of women often are. The panels themselves are excellent, and they will be used a lot at future open days.

Congratulations Friends of Pattemore House for an excellent project and use of the HQ grant funding.

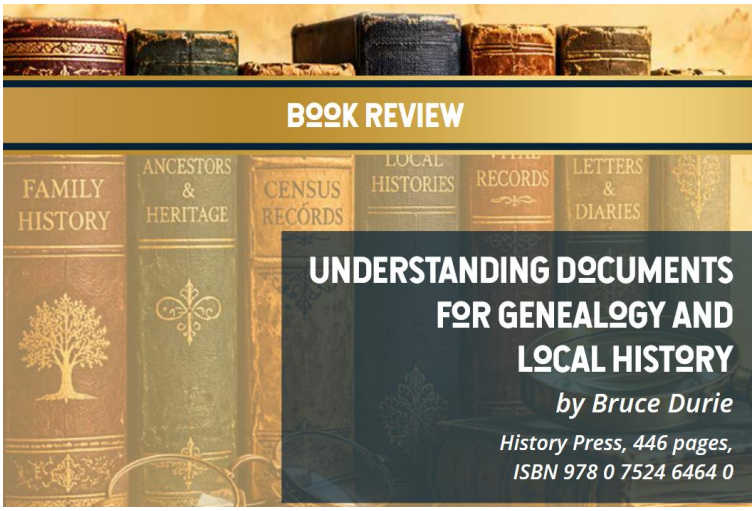
Penny Edwards, President of Friends of Pattemore House, delivering the welcome.

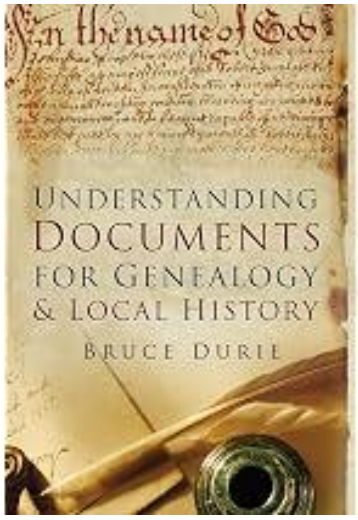
Penny Edwards, President of Friends



Valerie Thornton
Secretary, History Queensland

UNDERSTANDING DOCUMENTS FOR GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY





This is a reference book for anyone researching family history in the era before civil registration in the United Kingdom. The documents referred to are those most likely to be usefully encountered in this period as they can yield information such as names, places, and family relationships, and the time period ranges from about 1560 through to 1850.

The book is divided into three parts, each with a different purpose. The first part is instructional, giving ways to interpret old handwriting, Latin documents, dates, heraldry, measures, and numbers. The Latin chapter is very large and heavy going, but can be skipped until you actually need to use the language in a full document. This part of the book is most useful if you have little prior experience of trying to read older documents, and gives a good preparation before you start, although it does omit some Scottish legal conventions such as their peculiar year dating system.

The second part gives examples of the most common documents that will be encountered, such as Scottish sasines or trust settlements and English wills or indentures. These transcribed examples and notes are enough to enable you to establish the important details when working on a document, and include helpful advice on where to go searching for the documents. This is the essential part of the book, and you would want to refer to it constantly once you had started to read one of the types of documents covered.

The third part has a combined glossary of old legal, Scots, English, and Latin words that occur in these documents, together with their meaning. It is very comprehensive, with over four thousand words included and explained. This is followed by a Latin personal and, especially useful, place name glossary (for example Fluentanus Carcer for the Fleet Prison in London, or Ochthe Hupsele for the Ord of Caithness in Scotland). The propensity of the old clerks to show off their Latin ability by interspersing the documents with these oddities makes this part really useful to anyone whose Latin is restricted to a bit of school room doggerel.

This book is not a casual read, but it is certainly an essential companion whenever you have reached the stage of trying to understand those older documents back from the late eighteenth century. It is a large book but it includes everything that you need in a single volume. I recommend it to you as the one reference book that you would always have beside you when looking at any older document. Even in this modern era of AI transcriptions, it is useful to have a reference which can give you facts rather than invented half-truths.

Extract from book review by Alistair Henderson in *Generation*, the Quarterly Journal of the Genealogical Society of Qld Inc, vol 49 no 4, June 2026

WOOLOOWIN RAILWAY STATION – EARLY HISTORY

This article by David Teague is from the society's August 2015 Journal

When the Sandgate Railway line opened in May 1882 there were three stations locally: Albion, Lutwyche (at the bottom of Chalk Street) and a platform at Maida Hill.

Unfortunately the gradient from Albion to Lutwyche was too great and eventually the line was lowered and as a result the old stations of Lutwyche, re-named Wooloowin and Maida Hill were replaced by a single station - **Wooloowin**. A new station was built about 100 yards closer to Eagle Junction of first-class substantial character.

Built by Mr White for about £2,000 the buildings were of brick, roofed with rubberoid and red shingle tiles. Awnings of rolled iron (not corrugated) branch from each side. These covered not only the platform, but extended over the kerbing so that passengers were completely protected in wet weather when entering the railway carriages. The buildings were reached from the over foot-bridge. The elegant porchway and large entrance waiting-room were tastefully decorated. Iron ornamental fences had been erected, in order to facilitate the collection of tickets under a barrier system. The stationmaster's office was a large well lighted, well furnished room. Beyond it was a general waiting-room, with ample seating accommodation. This was a partially open apartment, the sides being partly enclosed by ornamental wood framework, and windows of coloured glass. From, this entrance was gained to the ladies' waiting-room, the fittings of which were much superior to anything then seen in suburban railway stations. One boon to ladies, as at the Central station, was the lavatory, with towels provided for them. Beyond the waiting-rooms were storerooms and ample sanitary arrangements. Unlike the other apartments, the sanitary-rooms were not ceiled, but were open to the roof. For the painted work throughout two shades of green were selected.

The whole station throughout was fully lighted by electricity. Altogether an effort was made, and not without success, to make Wooloowin railway station quite an up-to-date and model building. Visitors to Sydney will remember the many up to date buildings, with their red tiled roofs and shingled gables. The Wooloowin station comes nearer to these new style buildings than almost any yet seen in Brisbane. The last stage was the erection of a ramp.

Based on The Telegraph: 10 April 1901

Photos from picture Qld. Coloured by current Editor

From the *Journal* of the Windsor and Districts Historical Society Inc, vol 38 no 3, August 2026

FREE SEARCHING WEBSITES FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

Qld School Admissions Registers —
https://www.data.qld.gov/dataset/school-admissions-registers-1878-2001
Qld Indexes —
https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/starting/search-the-records/search-the-reacords
City of Moreton Bay Libraries—History & Heritage —
https://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Libraries/Discover/History-and-Heritage
Qld Births, Deaths & Marriages —
https://www.familyhistory.bdm.qld.gov.au
NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages —
https://www.familyhistory.bdm.nsw.gov.au/lifelink/familyhistory/search?1
Vic Births, Deaths & Marriages —
https://my.rio.bdm.vic.gov.au/efamily-history/64c33bae43563b265345faad
NZ Births, Deaths & Marriages —
https://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/home
Libraries Tasmania — Births, Death &Marriages —
https://libraries.tas.gov.au/family-history/births-deaths-and-marriages/introduction/
WA BDM — Online Search Tool —
https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-justice/online-index-search-tool
Find-a-Grave — https://www.findagrave.com/
Search Archive Indexes — Immigration, Convicts, Prisoners& Early Settlers, Lands & Mining, Schools, Hospitals, Orphanages etc —
https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/starting/search-the-records/search-the-records
The Ryerson Index — https://ryersonindex.org/search.php
Free BDM UK — https://www.freebdm.org.uk/cgi/search.pl
General Register Office – England & Wales — https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/
Ulster Historical Foundation — https://ulsterhistoricalfoundation.com
Scotland's People — https://www.scotlandspeoplel.gov.uk
Trove — https://trove.nla.gov.au
Cyndi's List — https://cyndilist.com
Brisbane City Council — Cemeteries — https://brisbane.discovereverafter.com
Free Reg — https://www.freereg.org.uk/

From *CFHRG Newsletter*, August-September 2026, of the Caboolture Family History Research Group Inc.

Caboolture Family History Research Group Inc.
Preserving Your History
2025 - Celebrating 45 years

(Please note that I have not checked whether the website links shown are functional. Ed.)

Gin Gin Historical Village & Railway Station

The **Gin Gin Historical Village** sits on the site of the former railway station and is home to an impressive collection of railway memorabilia, vintage machinery and historic displays. You can wander the grounds for free, or pay a small fee to access the museum buildings and learn more about the town's rail and agricultural history.

Source: https://www.wanderexplorediscover.com/post/gin-gin-queensland

Gin Gin cattle station – Open it to selection!

Another attempt is to be made to induce the Government to repurchase the Gin Gin cattle station, and throw it open to selection. The previous attempts have failed to secure this valuable property. I look upon keeping land locked up, depasturing a few head of cattle, when said land is wanted by the people as almost a crime. The land could be put to better use than growing bullocks, especially as the railway line runs through it, and the land has been pronounced to be capable of growing almost anything. This township is greatly hampered by its cramped position. From Maroondan to Watawa, forming as it does a huge crescent, is the land in question, and a big reserve vested in the Divisional Board in the centre. The said reserve is practically useless owing to its being unfenced. Part of it, or the whole, should be enclosed with a substantial fence; then anyone wishing to use it could pay agistment fees. The reserve could be made a source of income to the Kolan Board if they were so minded. I know several who would be glad to rent part of it at a fair price. The Board before mentioned are looking about to see how they can curtail expenses. Here is a suggestion given gratis – rent your reserve.

From *Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser* 5th November 1901, quoted in Family Ties, the Journal of Bundaberg Genealogical Association Inc, vol 30 no 1, September 2026.

THE TASTE OF SUMMER IN QUEENSLAND – PINEAPPLES

Pineapples are indigenous to South America and were cultivated by the Maya and Aztecs.

THE TASTE OF SUMMER
A very brief timeline of the Queensland pineapple industry

Pineapples are indigenous to South America and were cultivate by the Maya and Aztecs.

1826 The Australian reported that several pineapple plants fro South America had been received into the Government garden in Sydney.

1838 Pineapples were first planted in Queensland at Queen's Gardens in Brisbane (next to Treasury Hotel). The first pineapples were a small, rough-leaf variety and were grown commercially by the early 1840s at Nundah.

1858 The first large, smooth-leaf variety (known as Smooth Cayenne) was introduced to Australia from Kew Gardens.

1903 Pineapple farm blocks auctioned at Glasshouse Mts (Parish of Beerwah).

1916 Soldier Settlement schemes at Beerburrum/ Glasshouse Mts and Woombye – settlers encouraged to grow pineapples.

1920s State Cannery commenced canning pineapples.

1922 United Fruitgrowers Co-operative Assoc established at Glasshouse Mts.

1930s The development of the rotary hoe made farming easie Prior to this all planting, fertilising and harvesting was done by hand.

1936 Coochin Ck Fruitgrowers Assoc established at Beerwah.

1947 Golden Circle began operations as a grower cooperative The Northgate Cannery was opened on 28 October 1947, originally known as Queensland Tropical Fruit Products before taking the brand name Golden Circle.

1960s Mechanical harvesters were developed.

1980s Pineapple production in Australia reached its peak in th late 1980s, but cheaper imported product has eroded the volume in the canning sector since the 1990s.

2026 Every year, more than 35 million pineapples are grown across Queensland. Key growing regions include the Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Queensland, and the tropical north.

Did you know that from planting to harvesting, a pineapple tak two years?

From the *Peach Trees Gazette*, the newsletter of the Peachester History Committee Inc, no 208, September-October 2026.

Ripened pineapples ready for harvesting –
crop of pineapples in Nundah.
From APO-29 Album of Views of Queensland, 1890-1897

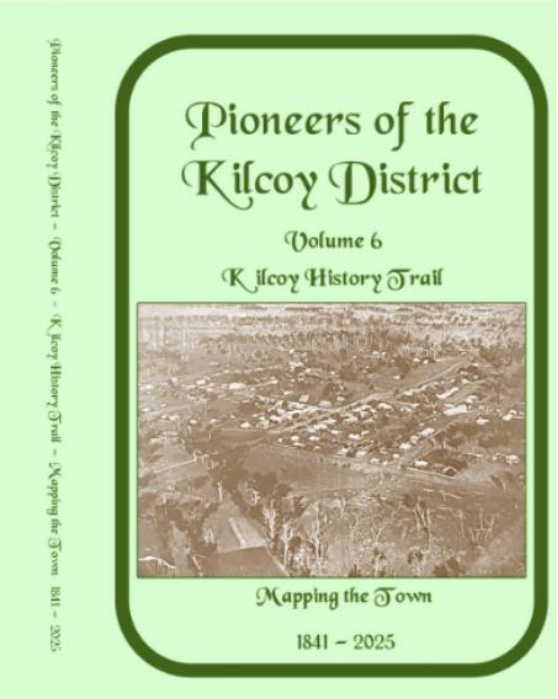
http://hdl.handle.net/10462/deriv/39417
(State Library of Qld)

VOLUME 6 PIONEERS OF THE KILCOY DISTRICT – MAPPING THE TOWN 1841-2025 BOOK LAUNCH ON 7 NOVEMBER 2026

Pioneers of the Kilcoy District, Volume 6, Mapping the Town 1841-2025 is a permanent record of Kilcoy's built heritage and the people and small businesses who contributed to the social and commercial infrastructure of our thriving community. It is the anticipated culmination of decades of local research covering more than 140 sites and the families featured in the Kilcoy History Trail Project 2015-2025 and corresponding tourism brochure. Volume 6 celebrates the rise of our small rural town after the Government Surveyor was appointed to gazette property lots and roadways in a grid pattern for Kilcoy township between Kilcoy Creek in the east, Sheep Station Creek to the west, and along the D'Aguilar Highway after 1888.

Volume 6 is the final part in the Pioneer Series of the Kilcoy District Volumes 1 to 6. It records the significant details and narratives of each location, supported by relevant images and evidence sourced from title deeds, maps, print and digitised sources. It consists of a 200-page account containing the documented stories associated with each location by street and number, colour images, black/white historical photographs and maps.

The Kilcoy District Historical Society is proud to be associated with this publication, reinforcing the importance of publishing a trustworthy and accurate record of our local history so current and future generations and families can connect with the rich knowledge of the past and the place we love to call home.



Volume 6 will be launched on Saturday 7 November 2026

Venue: **Kilcoy State High School Hall - Seib Street, Kilcoy.**
Starting time: **9.30am with morning tea and displays.**
Official presentations and proceedings: **10.30am to 12.00pm.**
Book sale and launch: **12.00pm.**

This event is open to all residents, business and property owners, and general public, past and present. Come along and discover the history of Kilcoy. Catch up with friends from the past who are coming back to Kilcoy for this event.

From the *Newsletter* of the Kilcoy District Historical Society Inc, July-August 2026.

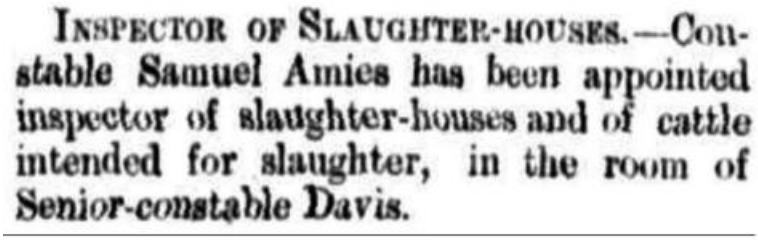
The source of the image of the book was the Society's website, https://kilcoydistricthistoricalsociety.com/publications .

SAMUEL LOWELL AMIES – POLICE OFFICER, BURIED AT NUNDAH

Article by Lisa Jones (curator Queensland Police Museum).

Samuel Lowell Amies was the seventh child born to Thomas Isaac Amies and Phoebe Lowell on 5 August 1860 in Canning Downs, near Warwick in western Queensland. Phoebe bore a total of 12 children and three of her sons, John, Thomas and Samuel, became Queensland police officers, however only John and Samuel are interred in the Nundah Cemetery.

Samuel, a labourer by trade, was sworn into the Queensland Police Force as Constable 501 on 11 November 1874 aged 22. After a short time in Brisbane, he was transferred to Beenleigh in 1884. Four years later in January 1888 he resigned, more than likely to help his parents on the farm.



INSPECTOR OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Constable Samuel Amies has been appointed inspector of slaughter-houses and of cattle intended for slaughter, in the room of Senior-constable Davis.

(courtesy of Queensland Police Museum)

Fourteen months later, in March 1889, he was re-appointed as Constable 622 and after a month in Brisbane he was transferred to Mellum Creek in April 1889 and then Mount Erwah in October 1890.

Before moving to Southwood, he married Lily Duath on 17 April 1891 at Beenleigh and they ultimately had seven children. Samuel and his family remained at Southwood for seven years and then moved to Miles in 1897 where he rose to the rank of Constable 1/c (first class). Samuel was transferred to Mungindi in 1903 as Acting Sergeant. After six years Samuel was transferred to Clifton in 1909 and then on 6 March 1910 he retired, after 25 and a half years of service and at the age of 50, to his home 'Norfolk' on Clayton St, at Sandgate.

On 29 November 1921 Samuel was awarded the Imperial Service Medal for his more than 25 years police service. He died aged 63 on 2 May 1923 of Pernicious anaemia, secondary diarrhoea, malnutrition and heart failure at Sandgate. The eulogy to Samuel in the *Mudgee Guardian and North-Western Representative* (NSW) 10.05.1923, p18, extolled his love of cricket and tennis and mentioned that at the time of his death, he was an umpire for the Brisbane Cricket Association. The service at Nundah Cemetery was officiated by Reverend S Baggeley of Sandgate and many wreaths were placed on the grave, including one from the Sandgate District Cricket Club.

From *Echoes of Nundah's Past*, the newsletter of the Friends of Nundah Historic Cemetery, issue 17, August 2026.

MONUMENT MATERIALS: THINGS OF STONE & WOOD

The craftsmanship of headstones varies widely, from simple tablets to elaborate statues and obelisks. Wealthier families often commissioned grand monuments as public statements of grief and status, while more modest markers were used by those with fewer resources. In recent years, there has been a resurgence of personalised and stylised monuments, reflecting contemporary values and the desire to celebrate individual lives.

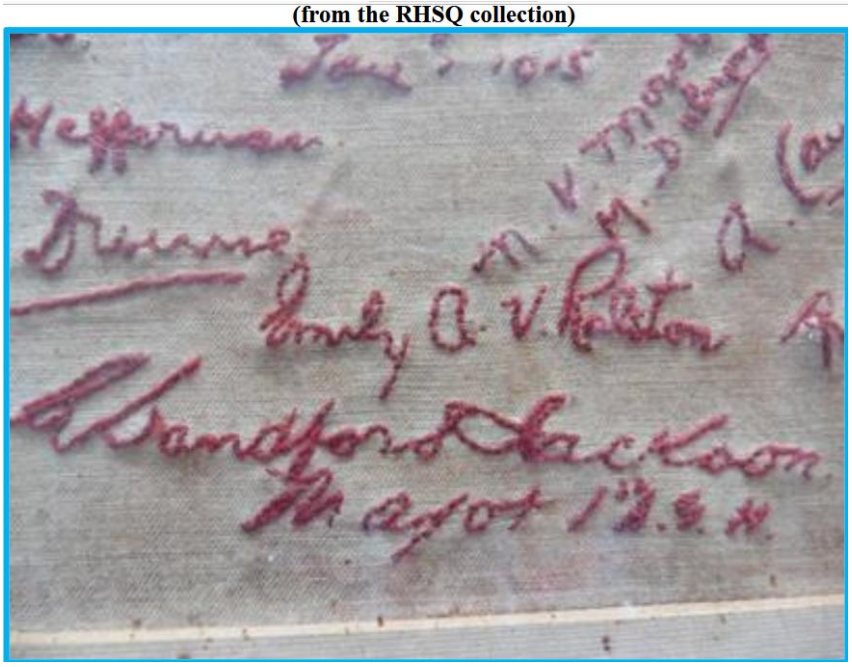
The materials used to construct grave markers have changed over time, with choices reflecting technological advances, social status, and the local availability of materials and labour. These choices often determine the lifespan of the marker, with the strongest and usually more expensive materials surviving to this day, while most cheaper markers are being lost to time.

Materials include wood, different types of marbles, sandstone and granite, metal, glass, and ceramics. As part of the QCHAA Monuments Project, we will examine the qualities of different materials and trends in usage.

From the website of the Queensland Cemetery Heritage And Arts Association, https://qchaa.org/ .

KYARRA SIGNATURE CLOTH RECORDING QUEENSLAND NURSES WHO DEPARTED IN NOVEMBER 1914 FOR SERVICE IN WORLD WAR I

(from the RHSQ collection)



Object number RHSQ1935.1. Maker, Mary Jackson, needleworker, c.1920, Brisbane, Queensland. Medium and Materials, cream linen, red cotton thread, 41 x 48.5 cm (sight when framed)

A Cream linen cloth embroidered in red thread with signatures of Queensland staff of No. 1 Australian General Hospital who departed Brisbane on 21 November 1914 on the hospital ship *Kyarra* bound for the Middle East. After calling at southern ports to pick up more personnel, stores and equipment, the ship left Fremantle on 4 December as part of Australia's second war convoy. The cloth, presumably some of the all-purpose linen carried aboard, was signed on 1 January 1915 during the voyage across the Indian Ocean. It bears the signatures of nine Sisters and fourteen Staff Nurses of the Australian Army Nursing Service and Major Ernest Sandford Jackson of the Australian Army Medical Corps. After serving in Egypt, Jackson was invalided back to Brisbane in November 1915, probably bringing the signed cloth with him. Some years later the signatures were embroidered by Mary Jackson, his youngest child, who was then a pupil of Brisbane High School for Girls (later Somerville House).

The nurses included Christense Sorensen who was later to distinguish herself in operations at Salonika and become matron of the Brisbane General Hospital.

After disembarking HMAHS *Kyarra* at Alexandria, Egypt, the signatories travelled to Cairo where they helped to set up No. 1 Australian General Hospital in the Heliopolis Palace Hotel. There they received sick and wounded from Gallipoli, including casualties from the landing of 25 April 1915. Later, some nurses were posted elsewhere before serving on the Western Front.

In April 1915 Major Jackson was transferred to No. 2 Australian General Hospital, Cairo where he operated on wounded Anzacs. After contracting pneumonia he was invalided back to Brisbane in November.

Donated by Dr Ernest Sandford Jackson, 1930–35. Conserved in 2023 with funds from the Commonwealth Government's Dept of Veterans' Affairs Commemorative Grant Program entitled 'Saluting Their Service.'

From the *Bulletin*, the newsletter of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland, no 920, August 2026.

LATE 19th CENTURY PHOTOS OF THE CAIRNS REGION AND NORTH QUEENSLAND

29440, John Henry Paul Berthon Photograph Albums and Sketchbook

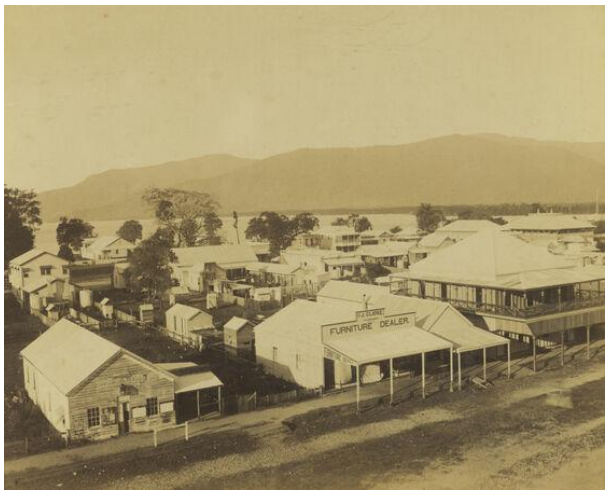
In April 2014, the John Oxley Library was fortunate to receive a remarkable donation from Judy Perry of England. The collection comprised two photograph albums and a sketchbook compiled by her grandfather, John Henry Paul Berthon (1865-1952), a young Welsh engineer who arrived in Australia in the mid-1880s to work on railway construction projects in the Rockhampton district before helping to survey and plan the route of the Cairns to Kuranda railway.

John was a man of many talents – an engineer, photographer, sportsman, artist, and amateur musician who enjoyed playing the banjo and singing with local musical societies. Universally known as "Jack", he carefully annotated his photograph albums and sketchbook, providing a fascinating insight into the local environment, Aboriginal peoples, and colonial life through his own witty and humorous observations.

The albums are a treasure trove of remarkable images, offering an intimate portrait of Berthon's personal life and engineering work throughout the Cairns region and North Queensland during the late 19th century.

Survey staff and horses breaking camp at Mossman River in 1887. 29440 Photograph John Henry Paul Berthon Album and Sketchbook collection, Image Number 29440-0001-0008, John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

Cleared land and construction of the Cairns railway in 1888. 29440 Photograph John Henry Paul Berthon Album and Sketchbook collection, Image Number 29440-0001-0050, John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

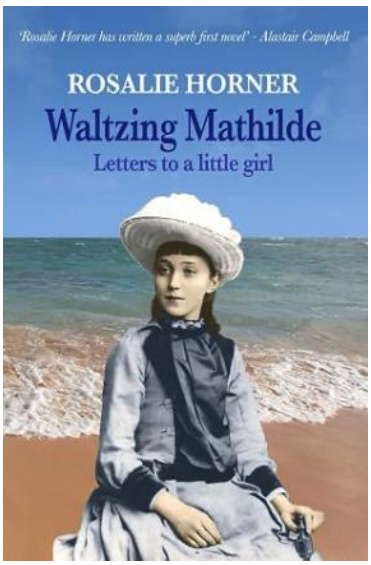


View of Cairns from the top of Hides Hotel in 1891. 29440 John Henry Paul Berthon (1865-1952) Photograph Album, Image number 29440-0002-0124. John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

From blog by Tania Schafer, 10 September 2026, State Library of Queensland.

OCTOBER EVENTS: QUEENSLAND CALLING – 1847-1850, and *WALTZING MATHILDE*

Mrs Anna Macarthur Wickham, wife of Police Magistrate Captain John Wickham, SLQ/John Oxley Library.



Queensland Calling – 1847-1850
Date: 21 October 2026
Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm (hybrid**)**
Guest Speaker: Dr Jennifer Harrison

What attracted so many of our forebears to the infant northern outposts of New South Wales in the years at the end of the fourth decade of the nineteenth century? This presentation continues a theme commenced in Jennifer's 2025 presentation. A newspaper had been established, Dr John Dunmore Lang was extolling its virtues and New South Wales authorities were loath to spend money on developing the distant settlements. Who came? What was here? Why would anyone, let alone women and children, cross oceans to unknown futures? We investigate why thousands ventured here during these years.

Waltzing Mathilde by Rosalie Horner
Date: Monday 26 October 2026
Time: 10:00-11.30am (online)

Our book club is designed for family historians. We will read both fiction and non-fiction and share our opinions. Highbrow, lowbrow - we do not care as long as we are reading good writing and learning something along the way.

Book Club events are Members Only events.

From Amazon Based on a true story, this is a coming-of-age novel of loss, love and finding home. In 1890, 12-year-old orphan Mathilde Plate is devastated to leave her beloved grandmother in Germany to sail across the world to live with her uncle and his family in Sydney. After losing everything, she confronts a harrowing sea voyage and a murderous psychopath. In Sydney, she battles misery, isolation and tragedy, but determined to make a life for herself in the strange new world of Australia. A fascinating stranger falls in love with Mathilde but can she trust him? Music and letters from home are her salvation. Will a mysterious picture hold the key to love? Rosalie Horner is the author of two non-fiction books, 'Inside BBC Television, A Year Behind the Camera' and 'Great TV Entertainment'. She was born in Sydney but made her home in London for many years, working as a Fleet Street journalist, a television panellist on New Faces, Celebrity Squares, Telly Addicts and Tell the Truth. Before she left Australia she did Fine Arts at Melbourne University, took part in student revues and theatre, and was a television presenter on ABC Melbourne. Rosalie has a degree in Italian from University College London. In 2018 she returned to live permanently in Sydney.

From *Snippets*, newsletter of the Queensland Family History Society, vol 26 no 9.

QUEENSLAND VOLUNTEERING CONFERENCE – 5 and 6 NOVEMBER

The program for the **2026 Queensland Volunteering Conference** has officially launched! Under the theme *Volunteering for Sustainable Futures*, this year's conference runs **5–6 Novembe**r in Brisbane, with satellite events in Cairns, Gladstone and Roma, plus online and watch party options. Expect two days packed with sector voices across three streams — Connecting Communities, Designing Solutions, and Strengthening Impact — plus a Youth Volunteer of the Year panel and returning MC Spencer Howson.

Here, in brief, are the sessions (omitting breaks) as they appear in the online program where session summaries and additional information is available: https://conference.volunteeringqld.org.au/program

Day 1 – Thursday 5 November

Registration
Event Opening & Welcome to Country, Spencer Howson
Opening Address, Jane Hedger (CEO, Volunteering Queensland)
Sustainable Futures: Rethinking Volunteering for What Comes Next, Dr Elissa Farrow
The Future We Create: Resilient People, Sustainable Communities, Dr Liz Crowe
Volunteer Voices: Insights for Leaders, Jaylyn Rongo, Rheanca Lincoln, Toby Kennett
Poster Presentation Showcase
Concurrent Session — Belonging By Design: Inclusive Volunteering in Practice, Gail Ker, Cassy Dove, Antonella Russo
Concurrent Session — From Interest to Involvement: Building Strong Foundations for Volunteer Participation, Zoe Bickerstaffe, Wendy Cliff, Shannon Mead
Concurrent Session — The Engagement Multiplier: Communication for Impact, Amanda Newberry
Digital Tools That Enable, Not Overwhelm, Kyle Behrend
Closing remarks, Jane Hedger
Networking reception

Day 2 – Friday 6 November

Opening remarks, Jane Hedger
Statewide Connections
Concurrent Session — Partners in Practice: Collaborating Effectively with Volunteers, Erola Prat Ibanez, Christine Spiers, Loren Ayres
Concurrent Session — Generations in Action: Engaging Volunteers Across Ages and Experiences, Andy Parkinson, Tanya Stevenson, Carolina Puleston
Concurrent Session — National Strategy Action Plan: Shaping the Next Chapter, Sara Sterling
Influencing Decision Makers: Making the Case for Your Volunteer Program, Damien Ryan, Tara Castle, Tracey O'Neill
The Role Menu: Reimagining Volunteer Participation, Anthea Cuddihy, Marion Phillis, Darren Playle
Closing remarks, Jane Hedger

From Volunteering Queensland's *Monthly News*, September 2026.

ORAL HISTORY TRAINING, and LIBRARY EXHIBITION AT NEW FARM STATE SCHOOL

Oral History

Contributor: Robert Allen

Expert training provides sound oral history foundation

Twenty society members attended an *Oral History Basics and Interviewing* workshop in the Ron Muir Room on August 26.

Funded by our BCC Historical Organisations Assistance Grant, the training was delivered by Professor Helen Klaebe and Oral History Queensland Secretary Elisabeth Gondwe, with assistance from University History student Samantha Wiley.

The full day workshop provided participants with a foundation in oral history principles and best practice. Through discussion and the use of practical examples, they learned how to plan, conduct and manage oral history projects.

Topics covered included:

- What is oral history?
- Finding a project;
- Ethics, copyright and permissions;
- Organising interviews;
- Equipment;
- Interviewing processes; and
- Using your work.

The practical component involved teaming up in pairs to interview each other about a key school memory.

Feedback after the workshop was uniformly positive and several members expressed their eagerness to be involved in the society's future oral history projects.

Please email Tracey at **secretary@newfarmhistorical.org.au** if you'd also like to be involved.

Community News

Contributor: Connie Hamer

New Farm State School's 125 Years library exhibition

During the months of May through to October, members of New Farm and Districts Historical Society Inc have had the pleasure of supporting activities associated with New Farm State School's 125 Years. Recent events have celebrated the school's 'special birthday' whilst also celebrating and strengthening community connections.

It is with gratitude that Society members acknowledge and thank New Farm State School Office staff (Olivia, Emma and Megan) and New Farm Library staff (Christine, Katy and team) for their assistance, time and expertise in setting up an historical display of school memorabilia.

Olivia, Emma and Megan

New Farm Librarian Christine with Robert Allen

Rita Cleveland and Desley Garnett setting up the historical display in New Farm Library

From New Farm and Districts Historical Society Inc's *Newsletter* vol XXXII no 8, September 2026.

APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN FOR STATE LIBRARY FELLOWSHIPS AND MEDALS, 2027

Uncover a Queensland story

Applications are now open, and will close on 15 October 2026.

The State Library Fellowships and Medals program supports the documentation, preservation and sharing of Queensland's memory – past and present.

Fellowships are offered to attract researchers and creatives to explore, interpret and contribute to the significant collections of the John Oxley Library.

John Oxley Library Medals are offered to recognise individuals, organisations and community groups for outstanding contributions to preserving and sharing Queensland's cultural heritage.

Please read the Application Guide for the 2027 program. Below you will find answers to frequently asked questions.

For more information, please email fellowships@slq.qld.gov.au**.**

Fellowship categories in 2027:

John Oxley Library Fellowship

$25,000 for a project about Queensland's rich and diverse history.

Monica Clare Research Fellowship

$20,000 for a project about Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures.

Rainbow Research Fellowship

$20,000 for a project about Queensland's LGBTQIA+ / Queer histories and communities.

Queensland Heritage Register Fellowship

$20,000 for a project about lesser-known sites listed on the Queensland Heritage Register.

Queensland Business Leaders Hall of Fame Fellowship

$15,000 for a project that uncovers and creates new knowledge about Queensland's business and economic history.

Letty Katts Fellowship

$5,000 for a project about Queensland's music history.

Medal categories in 2027:

John Oxley Library Medal

Offered annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the appreciation of Queensland history.

John Oxley Library Community History Medal

Offered annually for outstanding contributions by community organisations or groups to the preservation, recording an...

State Library of Queensland Medal

Awarded by the Library Board of Queensland to recognise distinguished, outstanding and meritorious contributions...

More information is available:

Past fellows and their research projects

Get inspired! Learn about previous fellows and their research projects.

Fellowships FAQs

Read frequently asked questions about State Library Fellowships and Medals.

Read blogs by our fellows

Discover the latest research from our fellows on the John Oxley Library Blog.

From the State Library of Queensland's website, https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/get-involved/awards-and-fellowships/state-library-fellowships-and-medals

COUNTERFEIT AUSTRALIAN BANKNOTES SEIZED, and NEW AUSTRALIAN COINS

Counterfeit Australian banknotes seized

Australian Border Force (ABF) officers have executed the largest single-importer currency interception in Queensland history, seizing counterfeit banknotes with a total face value exceeding $2,000,000. In late June 2026, authorities intercepted 12 air cargo shipments from Asia, all destined for a single recipient, uncovering $2,000,850 in forged domestic bills and $850 in fake Canadian currency ($1,155 AUD). The historic bust highlights an unprecedented surge at the border; ABF data shows detections spiked to 700 illicit currency imports valued at over $6,000,000 during the 2025–26 financial year, up from just 13 detections worth $115,150 the previous year. ABF Superintendent David Henderson cautioned that replication quality is improving rapidly, though many variants still display smooth surfaces or explicit markings such as "prop" or "not legal tender." The seized items have been transferred to the Australian Federal Police and the Reserve Bank of Australia for forensic analysis and ultimate destruction.

https://www.nine.com.au/australia-news/qld/2-million-fake-cash-seizure-20260805-p60lqo.html

New Australian coins – Historical milestones

The Royal Australian Mint has launched its August product catalogue, spotlighting pivotal Indigenous civil rights milestones and currency history. The primary "Unity" collection marks the 60th anniversary of the historic Wave Hill Walk Off alongside the 50th anniversary of the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976, celebrating the resilience and determination of the Gurindji people. This sequence is split across two distinct 50-cent configurations: an uncirculated version retailing for $17.50 with a 60,000-unit production limit, and a silver proof edition priced at $150.00 restricted to 6,500 pieces. Concurrently, the facility has revived its annual Kangaroo Series to pay tribute to the 60th anniversary of Australian decimal currency. Utilising a specialised "Mob of Six Roos" motif, this timeline sequence features a 1-ounce silver frosted uncirculated $1 piece for $155.00, a 1- ounce silver proof $1 piece for $190.00, and a premier 1/10-ounce gold proof $10 piece retailing for $925.00

https://newsletter.ramint.gov.au/m/1/37196298/02-b26200-c672ff8385e14e11b832b67ee174bff5/5/181/2fceecc3-69c5-4b97-adaa-d67f1f3a71fd

From the *Newsletter* of the Redcliffe Numismatic Society Inc, issue 283, September 2026.

Commemorating Local Sports Stars

by Margaret Harding

BRENDEN HALL OAM was born in 1993. He lost a leg through illness aged six and made his debut at aged 15 years at the Beijing Paralympics in 2008. He broke the record in the Men's 400m. (S9 category) and competed in London in 2012, Rio de Janeiro 2016 and Paris in 2024.

ALASTAIR SMALES was born in 1962 and became an air traffic controller. An accident in 1992 robbed him of the use of his legs which didn't deter him from leading a successful life. Alastair was the World Record 100m Paralympic Butterflyer in 1998. At the State titles in 2000 he set three national records in butterfly and freestyle. He represented Australia at the Atlanta and Sydney Olympics in the S6 class.

ROBERT BIANCUCCI donated his uniform plus gold, silver and bronze medals to Redcliffe Museum in April 2011.

Robert's first overseas experience came in February 1988 when he competed in New Zealand where he broke national records in 100, 200, 400 and 800m sprints and the World class 8 record in the 400m. He was a member of the Paralympic Team to Seoul, South Korea in 1988 and competed at Barcelona in 1992.

He was the first disabled person in Australia to run a half marathon and to complete a marathon. His determination to 'bring back a medal' was exemplified by his running 1500m in Holland in 1990. The 32year old smashed the record by seven seconds in a time of 4 minutes 32 seconds although he was unwell.

MUSEUM MUSINGS WITH SAM

Greetings from Redcliffe Museum!

Spring is almost here and the museum brings a season of fresh perspectives and here is the exciting update. We are thrilled to share our current exhibition "Comedy Wildlife" which is heartwarming and sure to bring a smile to your face. As a part of sharing local stories, we have two events to commemorate 150 years of Humpybong State school. Come and look at the old school bell from 1929 and uniforms worn in 1935. For the September school holidays, we have two wildlife related talks where you will learn which insects, birds and sea life commonly found on Redcliffe peninsula and the surrounding areas. Please also book your free tickets to celebrate 10 years of the Redcliffe Peninsula Train Line in October. Check out the details by clicking on the links below and don't miss out! See you soon at the museum!

The Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards 30 May 2026 - 18 Oct 2026...***Exhibition Extended!!***

Get ready to laugh at nature's funniest moments!

Featuring 60 images, this exhibition showcases a selection of the winners and finalists' images from the competition over the years.

Comedy wildlife photography auction 23 August 2026 - 11 October 2026

For a limited time, visitors have the chance to bid on photographs featured in the exhibition through a silent auction. These delightful and humorous images capture wildlife at its most entertaining and would make a wonderful addition to any home or office. *Visit the Museum to participate*.

From *Humpybong and After*, Newsletter of the Redcliffe Historical Society Inc, vol 41 issue 3, September 2026.

2026 AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS – CALOUNDRA FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

Loyalty Awards – awarded to members with continuous membership of:

10yrs membership	15yrs membership	20yrs membership
Ralph Gray	Bob Beveridge	Valerie Thornton
Kay Middlemiss	Greg Hermann	Chris Triffett
Meg Savige	Jen Milner	
	Glenys Rousell	

Former Providore - Jen Milner

Certificates of Appreciation

Awarded to **Colleen Jones** for active support of operations, the Management committee and other members.

Awarded to **Fran Kitto** for ongoing work on the website and managing communications.

Interest Group Encouragement Award

Presented by Sue Brownjohn to **Colleen Jones** for her continuous support and attendance of the Interest Groups.

The Valerie Thornton Award

Awarded to **Kay Middlemiss** for her in depth study of her family history, especially The Life & Times of Commander John Tracey RN, her 3x great grandfather.

Extract from *Caloundra Clipper*, Quarterly Journal of Caloundra Family History Research Inc, no 134, September 2026.