THE FRIENDS' GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum
1st Quarter 2017 Edition

FQPM President's Message

The Management Committee resolved to assist with two major projects this year following the decision of the QPS to add three new names to the Queensland Police Honour/Remembrance Rolls last year. The first of these was to assist a team of local former officers and friends of Maryborough District to restore the final resting place of Senior Constable Henry Fetherston at the Maryborough Cemetery. This has now been completed and a date will be set for a re-dedication ceremony. The committee has resolved that this project is a fine example of how the FQPM can assist with the identification and restoration of our police heritage around this large State of ours. My congratulations to the Maryborough team for a job well done.

Our second major project is the restoration and construction of the graves of Constable Benjamin Ebbitt and Sergeant Thomas Heaney at the Toowong Cemetery. Both these projects will be completed this year. The FQPM has received some outstanding assistance in the research and collating of several lists of police related historical matters by undergraduate student Jodie Muir. This work will be of great assistance to researches and members seeking information on family members and I thank Jodie for her work. I thank all members for their interest and continued support of our Museum.

Bob Burns, President FQPM

Update on Thomas Heaney and Benjamin Ebbitt Grave Restoration Project

We have previously provided information concerning the condition of the graves of Benjamin Ebbitt and Thomas Heaney. Both these former QP officers are buried at Toowong Cemetery. The grave of Benjamin Ebbitt is in serious need of restoration and regrettably the Thomas Heaney grave is not marked at all.

Both Heaney and Ebbitt were admitted recently to the QPS Honour Roll as well as the National Police Roll in Canberra.

The FQPM have engaged Brisbane Memorial Care to undertake the required work which has now been commenced. A large tree which had grown up beside the Ebbitt grave pushing it off its alignment has now been removed.

It is expected that the work on the two graves will be completed early late April 2017 and the event will be marked by a dedication ceremony, at which the families and friends of the former officers will be invited to attend.

FQPM will be seeking assistance to fund this project and will look to significant benefactor/s to contribute the "lion's share" of the cost. Other avenues will also be examined, including approaching the families.

The FQPM extend our thanks to the Brisbane City Council (BCC), in particular the Lord Mayor who intervened on our behalf and waived the BCC application administrative fees required.

Grave of Henry James Fetherston – Maryborough Cemetery

Senior Constable Henry James Fetherston died from injuries sustained from a horse-riding incident in Maryborough in 22 February 1885. He was 26 years of age and was subsequently buried in the Maryborough Cemetery.

Henry Fetherston's name was subsequently admitted to the QPS Remembrance Roll by the Commissioner Ian Stewart on the 27 September 2016.

His grave, surrounds and monument was in need of considerable restoration. The President and Secretary were fortunate to meet with retired QPS representatives who had an interest in the restoration of police graves, in particular in the Maryborough area.

Retired QPS officer Noel Sparks and his wife Denise together with another retired officer Milton Leitch have undertaken and coordinated the necessary work to bring the grave up to an appropriate standard. Noel Sparks and Sergeant Neville Zarkovich, OC of Howard Police initiated the interest in Henry Fetherston through their research into the deceased officer.

The team engaged Wide Bay Memorials to refurbish the monument, which included removing the mould and staining and highlighting the lettering. They then went ahead with the cleaning and preparation of the iron work for painting. A heritage red colour was selected. The colour did initially cause some consternation but when it was seen in the broader sense looked very presentable. The inner area of the concrete surrounds has been sprayed with a herbicide, screened with weed matting and finally covered in crushed gravel.

The refurbished Senior Constable Henry Fetherston grave in Maryborough Cemetery

The FQPM President and Secretary travelled to Maryborough in early March 2017 to view the completed restoration work and undertake discussions with the local police, QPS Padre, piper and local government with regards to the planning of the Dedication Ceremony. More to follow on that event.

The FQPM Management Committee extends our sincere gratitude to Noel and Milton for the effort undertaken in the restoration of the Fetherston grave.

The Search for Constable Daniel Gould Copley's Grave

The FQPM recently received a request to assist in locating the grave of the late Constable Daniel Gould Copley.

FQPM Committee Member Rob Cochrane spent significant time and effort in an endeavour to locate the location of Constable Copley's grave which was understood to be at the Drayton Cemetery in Toowoomba. The following is an extract of the latest report from Rob:

Since my email there have been several further avenues of inquiry that have been followed up but I now think the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum (FQPM) have gone as far as we can go to locate the site of Copley's grave in the Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery.

Over the weekend I have been in touch with Marionne Diggles, the Secretary of the Toowoomba & Darling Downs Family History Society (http://tddfhs.org.au/). Marionne has been most helpful and advised me that she has also done some research on Daniel Copley and his story is one of the entries in their forthcoming book on people buried in the Drayton & Toowoomba Cemetery. According to Marionne, the location of Copley's grave has not been recorded as Drayton & Toowoomba Cemetery burial records were not kept until late 1866, more than two years after his burial. Therefore, the only way TDDFHS know where earlier burials took place is from existing headstones. When the area for the cemetery was first surveyed on 13 May 1850, part of Portion 269, Parish of Drayton was designated a General Cemetery and the land was divided into seven sections - the Roman Catholic section was two acres. In 1864, the Church of England received a Deed of Grant in Trust for its two acres. This was rescinded in 1866 when trustees were appointed. As the Roman Catholic section was not consecrated in the very early years, some people were buried in other sections as determined from existing or known headstones. Marionne expects that Copley was buried somewhere in what is now called Old Roman Catholic Section 1, or Old Roman Catholic Section 2.

I understand the Darling Downs Branch of the QRPA has approved the application to have Constable Copley's name placed on the Darling Downs Police Memorial Wall and the approval has been forwarded to the Council for action. Marionne is interested in this and would appreciate being advised when Copley's name is added to the Memorial Wall.

This report now concludes the FQPM investigation into the Copley grave location.

Can you HELP? We would be interested in contacting anyone who may be able to shine some light on the Copley mystery? Should you be able to provide some assistance, please contact the Secretary, FQPM at www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au.

What does the Latin text mean on the grave monument of the late Senior Constable William Conroy?

An epitaph for a courageous officer.

In March 2015, the Queensland Police Museum series 'From the Vault' featured the story of the death of Senior Constable William Conroy on Thursday Island in July 1895. Senior Constable Conroy lost his life following his arrest of Frank Tinyana who had earlier stabbed his wife and then stabbed Conroy seven times before assistance arrived. Conroy was buried on Thursday Island and a substantial headstone and memorial was erected in his honour by the Queensland Government and his colleagues in the Queensland Police Force.

The text inscribed on the memorial is:

To the memory of

WILLIAM CONROY

aged 33 years.

Senior Constable of Police

who was killed at Thursday Island

on the Second of July 1895

in the faithful and fearless execution of his duty.

Palmam qui mereit ferat.

This stone was erected

by the Queensland Government and

the officers and men

of the Queensland Police Force.

The circumstances of his actions leading to his death are certainly captured in the words, 'faithful and fearless execution of his duty'. However, the Latin epitaph *Palmam qui meruit ferat* prompts an inquiry into its meaning and loosely translated means:

He who has earned the palm, let him bear it.

The expression reflects the broad significance of palms, palm fronds and other branches of foliage as symbols of triumph, victory, ascension and regeneration in ancient times.

Early references to the phrase can be found at least as far back as 1722. Perhaps the most significant use of the phase can be attributed to Horatio Nelson who added it to his coat of arms following his elevation to Baron Nelson of the Nile in the late 1790's.

The use of the phrase on the memorial for Senior Constable Conroy is most appropriate in memory of a courageous police officer.

Senior Constable William Conroy grave on Thursday Island

CAN YOU HELP?

Captain Sub Inspector Robert Kyle Little

The FQPM are seeking information on former QP member Captain Sub Inspector Robert Kyle Little of the Native Mounted Police who died in Birdsville from heat stroke on the 15 January 1889. He is buried in Birdsville Cemetery.

Sergeant Thomas Orton Irvine King

Former QP Sergeant Thomas Orton Irvine King died on Fraser Island on the 28 January 1917 and was buried in the Maryborough Cemetery. Regrettably the grave is not marked in any way. It is understood that Sergeant King led a contingent of Mounted Troopers to assist with the capture of the Kelly gang in 1880. We are keen to receive any information about Sergeant King or his family in the Maryborough District.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR!

The FQPM are currently seeking copies of two publications written by former Commissioner Frederic Charles Urquhart (1858 – 1935):

- Camp Canzonettes (1891); and
- Blood Stains (1919).

Additionally -

The FQPM Historical Objects Purchasing Officer (HOPO) has been recently trying to discover how police officers in the 19th century lit their way during night shift. There is very little historical data available concerning the sorts of lanterns available for use by Queensland Police officers. References have been found to lanterns in the 1876 Police Manual but was not very helpful in regards to type and design.

The HOPO is therefore very keen to acquire a vintage police (marked QG) oil lamp, typically used by police departments and railways for the Museum which was commonly referred to as "bull's eye lantern".

A donation would be greatly received however the FQPM is also prepared to pay a reasonable price for one of these lamps.

Contact FQPM on email address:

secretary@friendsqpmuseum.com.au

New and Elevated FQPM Members since the last Issue

The FQPM Management Committee extend a welcome to new ordinary member Zelda Burrell of Croydon Park NSW.

Volunteers for Current Projects

Sam Johnson Biography – Volunteer/s

We are still seeking a keen volunteer to undertake the task of researching and documenting the biography of Police Tracker, Sam Johnson. Sam had quite a long career with the Queensland Police, yet his known biographical details are somewhat fragmented and to be found in a number of repositories.

The FQPM are committed to documenting a detailed biography of Sam Johnson's life following the work undertaken by the Friends' in erecting a headstone and slab on Sam Johnson's grave site at the Longreach Cemetery and re-dedicated the site on the 29 September 2015.

The FQPM are therefore seeking volunteer/s who would be prepared to research and record Sam's biography. Should you be interested in undertaking this project, please contact the FQPM Secretary.

FQPM Grave Location Project

The FQPM are delighted with the progress of the Grave Location Project currently being undertaken by Volunteer Jodie Muir. Jodie has provided copies of the three documents, so as to view the research progress. She is still making enquiries regarding the remaining few locations from the Commissioners' list and Honour Roll. Most of the remaining research to be done is from the Remembrance Roll. She expects to finalise all the locations by end of April 2017 and to get an opportunity to take some photos of local graves by then.

The details of former Acting Commissioner Ronald Joseph Redman will be added to the Commissioner's List. Mr Redmond was appointed Acting Commissioner of Police for two years from 1/11/1987 to 1/11/1989. This is in the official record of the QPS 150 year story.

Our thanks to Jodie for her work undertaken to date.

FQPM Merchandising

FQPM 10 Year Commemorative Challenge Coin

2017 marks the first decade of the operation of the FQPM (2007 – 2017) and commemorates 10 years of support to the Queensland Police Museum.
It was considered appropriate that a commemorative challenge coin be struck for the occasion and is represented by the FQPM badge on the obverse with the effigy of a police officer working a traffic point on the light blue over dark blue colours of the Queensland Police Service on the reverse. The pointsman was taken from a photograph taken in 1964 to commemorate 100 years of the QP. The image is that of Constable Richard Hausmann who resigned from the QP a short time later to run his family's farm, due to his father falling ill. The reverse design is reinforced with the words "Commemorating 10 years of Support to the Queensland Police Museum" with the dates "2007 – 2017".

This challenge coin is a limited edition and when they are sold, will not be reproduced.

The cost of the coins is $12.00 and can be obtained from Melissa Kirkpatrick, the Queensland Police Museum or by contacting the Secretary FQPM. Contact details appear in this newsletter and the FQPM website at www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au.

FQPM Challenge Coin

The FQPM have produced a challenge coin which is available for general sale. The obverse of the coin displays the badge of the FQPM and the reverse the badge of the QPS (necessary QPS approval obtained). The coins are 43mm across and housed in a plastic container.

The challenge coin is available for sale now and will sell for $12.00 each. As usual, all proceeds will go towards the purchase of collectable items for the Queensland Police Museum.

Any early interest in purchasing one of these collectable coins can be directed to the FQPM website on secretary@friendsqpmuseum.com.au.

Orders can be placed for pick up at Queensland Police Headquarters with Melissa Kirkpatrick, Executive Assistant, Office of the Deputy Commissioner – Strategy, Policy and Performance Level 7, Police HQ, 200 Roma Street BRISBANE QLD 4000.

Ph.one: +61 7 3364 4464 Fax: +61 7 3364 4053
Email: Kirkpatrick.MelissaA@police.qld.gov.au

Stubby Coolers

Stocks are running low and this design will not be repeated.

The FQPM commemorative historic police station (set of 6) series of stubby coolers are available for purchase.

Set of 6 are now $24.00 per set (postage is $9.00 anywhere in Australia). The image of each police station extends around the entire cooler with the FQPM badge and website address placed in a prominent position.

The police stations that were selected were – Camooweal; Ewan; Jackson; Roma Street; Thornborough and Fortitude Valley.

FQPM Commemorative Stubby Coolers (set of 6)

Get in now! There is only a few sets left of these very collectable historic Stubby Coolers.

NEW FQPM QPS BADGE STUBBY COOLERS!

These stubby coolers depict the five (5) types of Queensland Police hat badge that have been issued since 1884.

$5 each

All proceeds from the sale of these items will assist the FQPM to preserve the Queensland Police history for future generations.

For further information concerning ordering arrangements for all stubby coolers and challenge coins, please refer to the FQPM website (Shop) at www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au, or:

Orders can also be placed by contacting Melissa Kirkpatrick on 3364 4464. Orders can be posted or picked up from Queensland Police Headquarters, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane 4000.

These stubby coolers and challenge coins are also available from the Queensland Police Museum office (CASH ONLY).

FQPM Polo Shirts

FQPM Polo Shirts are now available!

Should you have an interest in acquiring one of these casual dressy shirts please contact the FQPM Secretary so that you can select your size and colour of choice?

They come in a range of sizes, both male and female and a good choice of colours.

All polo shirts are priced at $40.00 each plus postage if required.

FQPM Website

The FQPM website is updated regularly, please take the opportunity to take a look.

www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au

VALE

It is with great sadness that we advise the passing of FQPM Life Member Winifred (Win) McCormack on the 4 March 2017. Our condolences are extended to her husband John (FQPM Life Member) and family.

Win was a dedicated member of the FQPM and supporter of the Queensland Police Museum, frequently attending activities and meetings.

Membership

Membership to the FQPM assists the Association to continue with its goals of the advancement of the Queensland Police Museum, the acquisition and restoration of police heritage objects and the enhancement and effective sharing of knowledge concerning the history of policing in Queensland.

FQPM members are requested to encourage potential members to apply for membership.

The FQPM offer four levels of membership:

- Ordinary Membership: Annual subscription: $15.00 per year.

- Life Membership: $100.00 **(after 1 year as an ordinary member)**

- Corporate Membership: $50.00 annual subscription.
- Junior Membership (under 18 years of age): $15.00 one out payment until they attain the age of 18 years

Management Committee Meetings 2017

Wednesday 5 April 2017	1000 hr
Wednesday 7 June 2017	1000 hr
Wednesday 2 August 2017	1000 hr
Wednesday 4 October 2017	0900 hr
	1000 hr (AGM)
Wednesday 6 December 2017	1000 hr.

FQPM members are welcome to attend the Management Committee meetings as an observer. Should you desire to attend any of these meetings, you are requested to advise the Secretary so that an appropriate sized venue can be booked.

The meeting agenda will be forwarded to the FQPM Management Committee approximately ten (10) days prior to the meeting. Should you wish to contribute an agenda item or provide a submission, please forward to the Secretary by the Close of Business on the Monday prior to each meeting.

Ian Townsley
Secretary FQPM
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12 March 2017