THE FRIENDS' GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum
3rd Quarter 2021 Edition

FQPM President's Message

The on-going project to locate and refurbish the graves of our officers who are recorded on the Queensland Police Memorial continues albeit at a slower pace than desired. No doubt our ability to travel during the COVID period drives our progress however, this year will see at least two completed restorations.

One significant grave requiring urgent attention is that of our first Commissioner David Seymour buried in Hither Green Cemetery in London. Our initial attempt to have work started was interrupted by the Covid pandemic however, another attempt is about to be commenced.

Of interest in recent days a press report on the deterioration of graves of high profile Queenslanders at Toowong Cemetery and a call to institute a restoration program funded by the Government. A shout out to FQPM member Jack Sim for his effort to raise this issue before it becomes too costly. The FQPM can feel reasonably proud to be ahead of the pack on this matter. The Management Committee awaits the outcome of our submission to the QPS last year regarding the death in 1865 of Sub-Inspector Cecil Fulford Hill while performing duty with the Native Mounted Police in the Upper Dawson River Valley. My appreciation to Management Committee members for making progress on various projects in a difficult time. Keep safe.

Bob Burns APM, President FQPM

Status of the Grave Restoration Projects currently being undertaken by the FQPM

The FQPM is continuing to progress a range of projects, in particular restoration of graves of officers killed on duty and whose names appear on the Commonwealth and State Police Memorials. These projects include:

- Repairs to the damaged grave of Senior Constable William Considine at Arrilalah is yet to be finalised. The monument has been broken across the girth. Cause of the damage is unknown;

- Restoration of the grave of James William Harris at the South Rockhampton Cemetery. A preliminary quote has been obtained however we are seeking clear direction as to the extent of the restoration we can undertake through the Department of Environment, Resources and Minerals. The FQPM is being assisted with this project by the Queensland Retired Police Association, Rockhampton;

• Restoration of the grave of Constable Robert Stewart Alexander at the Maryborough Cemetery. A quote has been obtained from Wide Bay Memorials and a deposit paid. Work should commence soon. FQPM Committee Member Kevin Darch is coordinating this project;

• Restoration of the grave of Constable Arthur Crust at the Toowong Cemetery. The work to enable the grave of Constable Crust to be finally completed has been placed with stonemasons Wrafters of Banyo. This grave also includes Thomas Crust, son of Arthur who died a few years after his father. The grave does not appear to have ever been completed and the work is due to be finalised in the coming weeks;

• The installation of a memorial plaque for Constable Douglas Nicol on the 000 Wall in the Drayton Cemetery, Toowoomba. The placement of a suitable plaque to relate the circumstances of Constable Nicol's demise is yet to be finalised. Discussions with his descendants are continuing to identify where such a plaque would be best located either on the memorial 000 Wall or on the grave itself; and

• Launch of the FQPM Mounted Police challenge coin.

A Brief History of the New FQPM Challenge Coin

Commemorating the Horse in Policing

The FQPM has commissioned a new challenge coin to acknowledge the contribution of the horse to policing in Queensland since 1864.

The image depicts a mounted constable (circa 1950) in the Police paddock at Oxley near the current site of the Queensland Police Academy.

Early in his tenure as our first Commissioner, David Seymour, identified that with the vastness of the State of Queensland and the long distances between settlements some form of transport would be necessary. He chose the horse.

Horses became the principle means of transport for police officers across the State for the next almost 100 years until motorised transport became the more usual means. Up until the early 1960s, individual police stations had their own stables and paddocks in which to keep their troop horses.

At the turn of the century the Queensland Police obtained its horses by purchase; usually over 100 horses were purchased each year. By 1904 Commissioner Parry-Okeden was urging that the Police Department should breed its own horses in a move designed to overcome the difficulty of obtaining suitable remounts, usually at very high prices. His solution was to establish a small stud farm at Woodford, but this proved inadequate for the purpose. With the cost of purchasing horses continuing to rise due to competition from overseas military forces, in particular India, the Department looked elsewhere.

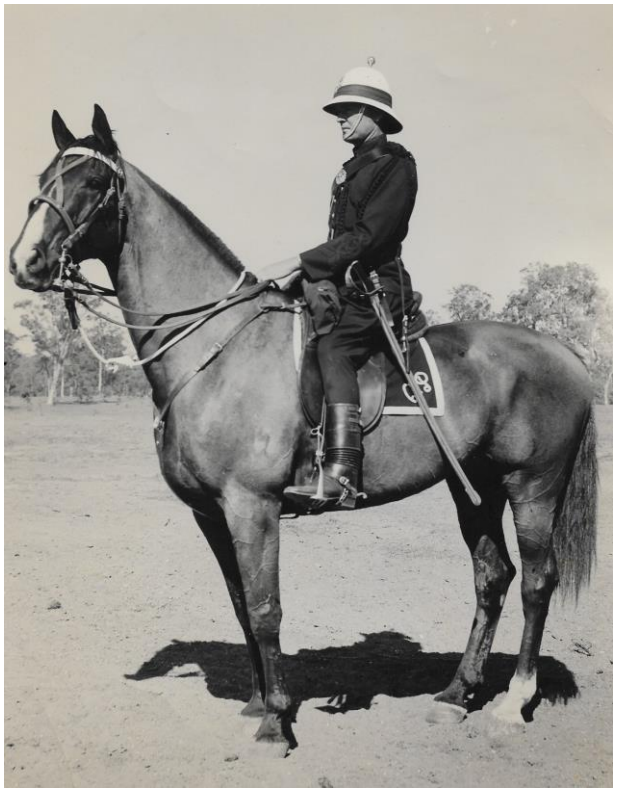
In 1909, Commissioner Cahill reported that he had obtained a fine reserve called 'Rewan', a 78,000 acre property resumed from the Consuelo leasehold near Rolleston in the Arcadia Valley. The breeding of horses on this property continued to 1933 when the Queensland Government closed the operation down citing inaccessibility and unsuitability of the horses for work in the north of the State. In 2019, a number of the permanent buildings constructed on 'Rewan' were "Heritage Listed", in particular the "Commissioner's Cottage".

In 1912, a new stable building was completed at the Petrie Terrace Police Depot in the old gaol area, which in 1941 became a garage for the needs of the mechanised Police transport fleet.

In 1920, a group of mounted police officers was brought together to act as an escort for the visit of HRH the Prince of Wales (this group of police officers has pride of place on the wall of the Museum) and in 1934 another escort came together for HRH the Duke of Gloucester.

In June 1941, the existing troop horses were moved to a newly constructed stable complex and paddock at Oxley Police Station. Here they remained until February 1997, when they were moved to their current location at Moggill. This site is now home to the Dog Squad training facility.

A Mounted Unit existed at the Oxley Police Station and was managed by the Officer in Charge. Police officers from this station rode patrols and searches and attended to the horses in addition to their normal police duties. In 1963, a position was created for a Sergeant 2/c with responsibility for the stable complex.



This photograph of Sergeant 2/c Andy Coyne was used as the model for the FQPM Challenge Coin.

In 1954, a troop of 30 police officers was brought together for the first Royal Visit by HM Queen Elizabeth II. The large number of horses required for this escort posed problems with accommodating them in the existing facility and an additional block of stalls was built for this purpose. A number of horses were also loaned by their owners for this escort from local racing stables.

On 26 August 1974, the Queensland Mounted Police Unit (QMPU) was created. The first Officer in Charge was Sergeant 2/c Andy Coyne QPM who was joined by two Constables. Other police officers were brought in as required for ceremonial duties in escorts, parades, searches, and tent-pegging displays at local shows and school fetes. This public relations role was one that was undervalued in many cases. The position was upgraded to Senior Sergeant in the lead up to the Commonwealth Games when the permanent staff was increased.

In 1982, a troop of 20 was brought together to perform duties in connection with the Commonwealth Games. This involved an escort for HM Queen Elizabeth II as well as providing a mounted security presence in the Commonwealth Games Village at Griffith University Nathan Campus. The troop was joined in the 1982 Warana Parade by a section from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who were in Brisbane for the handing over of the Commonwealth Games flag from Edmonton Canada to Brisbane.

The QPMU move to the purpose built facility at Moggill brought about a new era in training with the inclusion of a covered training arena, an outdoor simulated training environment, a proper office and storage facilities.

Today, members of the QPMU perform a variety of duties from VIP escorts, leading parades and police funerals, to patrolling inner city areas and parklands, and searches for missing persons and stolen property. The unit currently maintains a string of twenty troop horses in various stages of training. The QPMU works predominately in south east Queensland to provide a visible police presence at major events and in public spaces.

In this modern environment, only the Major and Organised Crime Squad (Stock Squad) and the Queensland Mounted Police Unit rely on horses for the performance of their duties.

Brief History prepared by Museum Curator Lisa Jones with additional material by FQPM Treasurer Wayne Coyne

Details of the purchase arrangements for the Mounted Police Challenge Coin can be found on the FQPM Website (www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au) or at the merchandising section of this newsletter.

Sample of the commemoration of the Challenge Coin - Queensland Mounted Police from 1864

171 William Harold Kenny DCM, MID, Medaille Militaire (Belgium)

William Harold Kenny was born in Guyra, New South Wales on the 20 August 1887 to Michael and Mary Kenny. Kenny joined the Queensland Police Force and was sworn-in on the 28 April 1914 and posted to Roma Street Police Station. He was twenty-six years and eight months. He remained at Roma Street until the 24 August 1914, when he enlisted in the AIF.

Lance Corporal William Kenny (shown left), would give sterling service on Anzac Cove. At one stage, he was tasked as a personal bodyguard to General Birdwood. Kenny would even become somewhat of an '*Anzac Hero*' as a result of several articles back in Australian newspapers, in relation to actions supposedly attributed to him.

One Australian still bears the name of the 'Haymaker', for his way of picking Turk after Turk on the end of his bayonet and throwing them one after another over his shoulder and over the edge of the cliff behind. In August 1915, the Sydney Mail published a photograph of a soldier supposedly involved in the incident, identifying him as Corporal William Harold Kenny.

As a MMP it is highly unlikely that Trooper Kenny, (the rank that he held then) would have come face to face with any Turks, other than possibly Turkish prisoners.

Kenny wrote to the Sydney Mail in an attempt to dispel the rumours, stating that he had no connection whatsoever with the incidents accredited to him. His statement was not published until November 1915 by which time the legends of Anzac were only being further exaggerated as papers sought to publish positive tales of courage at the front.

The popular Wills cigarette card series of the time, had a card headed ***FIRST UP THE CLIFFS***, it further glorified the supposed actions of the soldier:-

The storming of Gaba Tepe by the Australians is one of the most marvellous exploits in history. It was a big Queenslander with a corporal's stripes who landed first, and then scrambled up the cliffs, followed by a brave band of Queenslanders, who put the Turks to flight, the brave corporal was never seen again.

It was claimed that the 'Big Queenslander' may in fact more likely to have been a soldier known as "Big Bill" Montgomery, a member of the 9th Battalion. The 9th Battalion had been amongst the first troops to land on the 25th April and it is more likely that he was the soldier around which the tale evolved.

As a MMP, William Kenny was not amongst the first to land and was only holding the rank of Trooper or possibly Lance Corporal. He would not have scaled the cliffs to become involved in the fighting; a more accurate description of his actions on the 25th April was that he was on the beach, trying to gain order, encouraging troops to quickly move forward towards the hills, one thing that is probably true is that Kenny was in fact wearing his slouch hat, as per the photo when he landed, the 9th Battalion scaling the cliffs, were almost to a man, wearing the issue peaked cap.

Towards the end of the Gallipoli campaign, Kenny's actual service was more sensibly recognised by his officers that he served under. Kenny was recommended for his actions from the day of the landing up until late November in the following manner:-

For general good service as one of the ACMP at Anzac Cove since April 25th to present date, has carried out his several duties in maintaining discipline and regulating traffic on piers and [the] beach, frequently under shell fire with gallantry and in an exemplary manner.

This handwritten version has *Medaille Militaire* written on it, acknowledging the award of the medal, possibly his actions in guarding such high profile figures, such as General Birdwood, and historian, C.E.W. Bean may have ensured his actions were properly recognised.

In early 1916, Kenny was recommended for another bravery award, this recommendation was nearly identical to the first, but dealing with his service up from the landing until the evacuation in December 1915. For

this recommendation, despite appearing to practically being a duplication of the first, Kenny was recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) and was in fact awarded it, as well as the earlier *Medaille Militaire*.

Early 1916, back in Egypt, Kenny was still only holding the rank of Lance Corporal. Towards the end of January, Lance Corporal Kenny and Trooper Patrick Delaney were involved in an incident with a group of drunken soldiers from the 14th Battalion, one of the group, a Private Thomas, swore at Kenny. Kenny dismounted and struck the soldier, who hit his head hard when he fell to the ground.

Kenny and Delaney then rode off, the 14th Battalion soldiers took Thomas to hospital, where he died shortly afterwards.

Court-Martialled on the charge of Manslaughter, Kenny must surely have been lucky to have remained a MMP and to avoid being punished as a result of Thomas' death. Kenny's commendations for bravery must have assisted in his case, Trooper Delaney's evidence also assisted in getting a verdict of *Not Guilty*. Patrick Delaney was Jim Delaney's brother, Jim was an original member of the 1st Division's MMP.

William Kenny went on to serve in France, rising to the rank of Warrant Officer by wars-end, he is shown below, amongst a group of MMP from 1st Anzac Corps Headquarters. Kenny is seated in the front row, second from the left in the photo; to his left is his officer. Kenny is wearing a crown on his tunic on his lower right arm, indicating he is holding warrant officer rank; he is also wearing two ribbon bars over his left pocket, his *Medaille Militaire* and *DCM*. Kenny was also *mentioned in dispatches (MID)* while serving on the Western Front.

Photograph courtesy AWM.

Kenny resumed service with the Queensland Police Force in 1919 and on the 1 May 1920 was posted to Gilbert River.

In 1932, he was transferred to Tewantin as Officer in Charge. On the 23 September 1934, he was promoted to Sergeant 2/c and transferred to Cloncurry, where he remained until 1936, when he was transferred to Toowoomba.

Kenny remained in Toowoomba and on the 5 April 1943, he was medically retired from the Queensland Police Force following an assault whilst on duty and sustaining a fractured bone in his ankle. He had served for twenty-nine years.

On the 10 May 1943, Kenny enlisted for part time duty in the Volunteer Defence Corps (Queensland). Clearly, as result of his previous service, he was promoted rapidly to Warrant Officer Class One. He was the placed on the Reserve List on the 1 August 1944.

He subsequently died of illness on the 15 May 1949 and was buried at Drayton Cemetery in Toowoomba.

William Harold Kenny's grave at Drayton Cemetery, Toowoomba. (Photograph supplied by Ian Townsley).

William Harold Kenny's memory and name lives on. Kenny Lines, the home of the 1st Military Police Battalion in Townsville, was officially opened by the Minister for Defence, Senator Robert Hill on the 10 July 2003 at Lavarack Barracks.

(Contributed by Trevor Munro, WW1 Historian and former member of the RACMP. Additional material concerning police service contributed by Ian Townsley).

Constable Matthew Connolly. Can you help?

August 29 this year will mark a milestone in Queensland Police History with the 160th anniversary of the death of Constable Matthew Connolly, believed to be the first Queensland Police officer to die while performing his duty. Constable Connolly, the Watchhouse Keeper at Gatton had earlier delivered a prisoner to Ipswich and drowned on the return journey while attempting to cross on horseback flooded Sandy Creek near Laidley. Normally Connolly would have waited for the flood to recede, however he had been asked to deliver urgent medicine for two women on the other side of the creek, one of whom was the wife of the District Magistrate. The next day when Connolly's body was recovered the medicine was retrieved and delivered to the women.

Constable Connolly's grave in the Ipswich General Cemetery has not been located, however he is memorialised on the Queensland Police Memorial, Brisbane, the National Police Memorial, Canberra, the Ipswich Police Station and adjacent to the Sangster Memorial in Brown Park, North Ipswich.

Plaque commemorating Constable Matthew Connolly in Brown Park, North Ipswich.

Southern Region Police Chaplain Jeff Baills is seeking public help to establish the exact location of the drowning tragedy to enable a memorial service to be held on Police Remembrance Day to honour the courage of Constable Connolly.

The death occurred in 1861 during the period of changeover of police forces between NSW (Separation of NSW and Qld occurred 1859) and Queensland (the Queensland Police Force was officially gazetted in 1864). His death was not formally recognised until 2006. The exact location of the crossing at Sandy Creek is not known and the creek course has likely changed over time, however there is a proposal that a marker be placed in the vicinity at some time in the future.

Any information that could assist with this matter can be passed to the Curator of the Queensland Police Museum.

Article contributed by FQPM President Bob Burns.

FQPM Merchandising

FQPM Challenge Coin

The FQPM has produced a standard 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 coin is 43mm across and housed in a plastic container.

The challenge coin is available for sale now and will sell for $15.00 each. As usual, all proceeds will go towards the purchase of collectable items for the Queensland Police Museum.

The obverse of FQPM Challenge Coins and reverse of the standard coin

FQPM 'Women in Policing' Challenge Coin

Additionally, the FQPM have developed a challenge coin commemorating 'Women in Policing' in the Queensland Police. The dimensions are the same as the standard challenge coin. The obverse image is that of the FQPM badge and the reverse is a female officer working a traffic point.

The price is $15.00 and can be obtained under the same arrangements as the other FQPM merchandise.

Reverse of Women in Policing Challenge Coin

See below for ordering details for all FQPM products.

Note:

A member discount on challenge coins applies for members of the FQPM. Contact the FQPM Secretary or Melissa Kirkpatrick for details.

Forensic Crash Unit - 50 Year Challenge Coin

The limited edition Forensic Crash Unit challenge coins are 42mm across and beautifully finished in silver cupro nickel. They come in a clear protective cover. The obverse depicts the badge of the FQPM which is based on the Queensland Police helmet badge in use from 1906 – 1960. The reverse side depicts a silver raised 3D image of an Accident Investigation Squad vehicle from the 1980s and two investigators.

Details on how to order or obtain one of these desirable challenge coins can be found at the end of the Merchandising section of this newsletter.

QPM 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 your 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.

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.

$7 each

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

FQPM merchandise and a range of other Queensland Police Service memorabilia can be purchased directly from QSHOP which is conveniently located next to the Queensland Police Museum on the ground floor of QPS Headquarters, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane.

QSHOP is open to the public each Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am – 2 pm.

QSHOP can be contacted at hello@qphra.com

Or alternatively

Orders for all FQPM merchandise can also be placed by contacting Melissa Kirkpatrick. Orders can be posted or picked up from Queensland Police Headquarters, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane 4000. Ph. +61 7 3364 3042. Email: Kirkpatrick.MelissaA@police.qld.gov.au

Any queries regarding FQPM merchandise can be made to secretary@friendsqpmuseum.com.au

FQPM Members – when purchasing FQPM merchandising, please ask for your "Member's discount"!

Membership

Membership to the FQPM assists the Association to continue with its goals in 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; and
- Junior Membership (under 18 years of age): $15.00 one out payment until they attain the age of 18 years.

New Members

The President and Management Committee extend congratulations and welcome to the following new FQPM members:

186	Luke Kleidon - Redland Bay
187	Darren Rhodes – Roma
188	Stephen Haynes – Brassell
189	Jim Vogler – West Gladstone
190	Lance Castle – Ipswich
191	Glenn Burton - Whitfield

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR!

The FQPM is still seeking copies of the following books and publications for the Queensland Police Museum Library:

Two publications written by former Commissioner Frederic Charles Urquhart (1858–1935):

Camp Canzonettes (1891); and
Blood Stains (1919). This publication is mentioned in the entry for F C Urquhart in the Australian Dictionary of Biography.

The FQPM is prepared to pay any reasonable cost to obtain these publications, however donations are always acceptable.

For Information:

The Curator, QPM has advised that Frederick Urquhart's 'Camp Canzonettes' is now available via the State Library Queensland website (File Size = 51.4MB)

http://onesearch.slq.qld.gov.au/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=slq_alma21235181990002061&context=L&vid=SLQ&search_scope=SLQ&tab=slq&lang=en_US

Newsletter (Gazette) Articles

We endeavour to keep the Newsletter (the Friends' Gazette) interesting and relevant to our members and in doing so, we require (preferably) unpublished short stories, articles relating to former QP officers or staff members, incident or events of historical police significance.

Should you feel that you could contribute, please contact the Secretary FQPM.

Anomalies/corrections in the FQPM Website – www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au

The Secretary would appreciate any members who, during the course of scanning the FQPM website may detect any anomalies or incorrect information. Please pass this information on so that corrections can be made by the FQPM Website Administrator.

It's important that we ensure that our website is up to date and accurate.

www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au

FQPM Management Committee Meetings 2021

The FQPM Management Committee meets every two months on a Wednesday, commencing with the first Wednesday in February of each year. The meeting place for all meetings, unless advised differently, is held in the Seminar Room of the Queensland Police Museum.

The FQPM meeting dates for next year (2021) are as follows:

Wednesday 0900 hours 6 October 2021
Wednesday 1000 hours 6 October 2021 (AGM)
Wednesday 1000 hours 1 December 2021.

Regrettably, the FQPM Management Committee meeting for the 4 August 2021 was cancelled as a consequence of the enforced shut-down due to the Covid19 Virus. At this stage, the President would like to gather the Committee together on the 26 August 2021 to discuss any outstanding matters as a lead in to the AGM.

Vacancies on the Management Committee of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum Inc. (FQPM).

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum Inc. is to be held on Wednesday 6 October 2021 at 10.00 am in the Seminar Room of the Queensland Police Museum.

All the Executive and Committee positions will be vacated and nominations called. The following positions will be available:

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Committee Members (5)

If you feel that you could make a contribution in achieving the aims and objects of the FQPM, please consider nominating for a position on the Management Committee.

The FQPM AGM information and nomination forms will be distributed in early September 2021.

Ian Townsley
Secretary/Editor FQPM
(07) 3351 2797
0414 421 347
17 August 2021