THE FRIENDS' GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum
4th Quarter 2021 Edition

FQPM President's Message

The season of Christmas is fast approaching and it is timely that we reflect on our year just past. As previously indicated it has been an unusual year with limited opportunity to go about our business in an efficient manner particularly in relation to our search for historic police graves that require attention. Recent weather prohibited our attempt to get some work done on the Constable Nathaniel Roberts Memorial at Windorah and grave at Jundah and the restoration of Constable Robert Alexander grave at Maryborough. The FQPM however, was able to assist the Curator with some purchases in relation to minor equipment and to add to the library collection of relative police related publications.

I recently attended the launch of Laurie Pointing's latest edition of his 'Keeping the Peace Vol IV' series sub-titled 'You can run but you can't hide". The volume is a tribute to the role of police trackers in the story of policing in Queensland and includes a reference to Trooper Sam Johnson as well as stories of two of the last trackers to serve in the Queensland Police. A good Christmas read perhaps. I would like to offer a hope that your Christmas is a peaceful and safe time wherever you are this year.

Bob Burns APM
President FQPM

The Short Story of Henry Rosetta

The following is the fascinating story of Henry Rosetta, people close to him and places linked to him. It is not a police-related story *per se* although it does include several brushes with the law by Henry.

Henry Rosetta was born in 1816. On 30 May 1829, at 13 years of age, he was caught picking a pocket and stealing a silk handkerchief (value - 1 shilling) at Holborn in central London. In company with James Gilmore (18 years), Henry was indicted at the Old Bailey, convicted and sentenced to seven years transportation. Along with 224 other convicts, Henry departed England on 31 October 1831 aboard the *Gilmore* and arrived at Van Diemen's Land on 22 March 1832.

Henry married Mary Ann Treadway at St James Old Cathedral in Melbourne on 20 July 1842. At the time he is recorded as being a widower. On 8 May 1845, the schooner *Sylvanus* arrived in Hobart Town from Port Albert, Victoria and the passenger manifest included Mr Wade, Mrs Fermaner and child, and Henry Rosetta. There was no mention of

Henry being accompanied by his wife and no record has been found in Australia of divorce nor the death of Mary Ann Rosetta *née* Treadway.

The following notice appeared in *The Moreton Bay Courier* on 16 September 1848: *Persons are cautioned against hiring Henry Rosetta, my hired servant, who has absconded and left a flock of Ewes on the Run, on the 31st August. Age-about 35 years; height-about 5 feet 4 inches; sallow complexion. Francis Clarke, Kerry, Albert River.*

A man named Henry Rosetta was charged with attempting the life of a servant girl of the Reverend Mr Odell in May 1851 and for some unknown reason, the girl refused to give evidence. Odell appeared and stated the case to the magistrates and Rosetta was cautioned that if he again appeared before the bench for any assault on the girl he would be very severely dealt with. In October that year, Henry Rosetta was called as a witness in the matter of Jane Ellis charged with barbarous ill-treatment of her thirteen year old maid Isabella McEvoy. The proceedings before Captain Wickham and Messrs. D. M'Connel, Duncan, and Barney heard that Ellis tied up McEvoy with a rope, beat her and threatened her. Also in 1851, Rosetta began to purchase land at various places around Brisbane.

On 25 May 1852, Henry Rosetta married Mary Ann Sparkes at St John's Cathedral, Brisbane (his previous wife's name was Mary Ann Treadway). Later that year James Barry, a labourer of Ipswich, was indicted for stealing a cheque of the value of £10 4s from Rosetta at Ipswich on 30 July 1851. Barry was sentenced to twelve months of hard labour in Darlinghurst Gaol.

Mary Ann Rosetta gave birth to their first child (Henry Charles Rosetta) on 7 June 1853. Strangely, Queensland Births, Deaths and Marriages only record the mother as "Mary Ann –". A second child (Edward George Rosetta) was born on 26 March 1856 and on this occasion, the mother's name is recorded as "Maryann Bowers". When Edward died in 1935, his mother's name is recorded as "Mary Ann Bowers Sparkes". A third child (Christmas Gift Rosetta) is recorded by Queensland Births, Deaths and Marriages as being born on 26 December 1858 and this occasion, the mother is recorded as "Maryann Bowers". Sadly, Christmas Gift Rosetta died on 25 June 1864 aged five years and six months. The mother's name is again recorded as "Maryann Bowers". Christmas Gift Rosetta appears to have been a boy as a Birth Notice reads (in part), "On the 25th instant, at the residence of **his** mother…" As confirmation that Christmas Gift Rosetta was a male, his death notice reads (in part), "…youngest **son**". The Birth Notice date of Christmas Gift's birth (25/12/1858) differs from that of Queensland Births, Deaths and Marriages (26/12/1858). It appears that Mary Ann's maiden name was Bowers before marrying William Jackson Sparkes and then Henry Rosetta.

Going back to 10 April 1855, Henry Rosetta was fined 20 shillings for allowing swine to stray in the public streets of Brisbane. Then on 2 October 1858, he was charged with disorderly conduct on the previous evening. He did not appear in court and was fined 40 shillings, plus costs, in default seven days in Brisbane gaol - The fine was paid. In 1859,

Henry was one of 200 petitioners on Brisbane becoming a municipality and Queensland separating from NSW. In the same year, he was fined for allowing horses to stray on public streets and he gained a liquor licence for the new Freemasons Hotel in Albert Street, Brisbane.

Henry Rosetta died on 9 December 1863 (47 years) at his Fortitude Valley residence after a long illness and he was buried in the old cemetery at Petrie Terrace, Paddington (Brisbane). In the Supreme Court in Brisbane on 12 February 1864, probate was granted to Patrick Mayne and Zachariah Skyring, two of the three executors named in Henry's will. Patrick Mayne was the central character in Rosamond Siemon's book *The Mayne Inheritance* first published in 1997. On Mayne's death bed in 1865, he is alleged to have confessed to the murder of Robert Cox at Kangaroo Point in 1848. Back then, William Fyfe was arrested for the murder of Cox and hanged in Sydney on 4 July 1848 protesting his innocence to the end.

Skyring Terrace, Newstead is most probably named after Zachariah Skyring or another member of the Skyring family. The Skyring family were early pioneers in Queensland. They arrived in Sydney in July 1833 and later moved to Moreton Bay (Brisbane) where they started a dairy at Kedron. Two of the children, Zachariah and Daniel Skyring bought a great deal of land around Brisbane and became the first owners of large parcels of land in many of the well-known Brisbane suburbs. They paid £1 an acre for land at Mitchelton. Zachariah owned several butcher shops around Brisbane that he was to eventually sell to his brother-in-law Alonzo Sparkes.

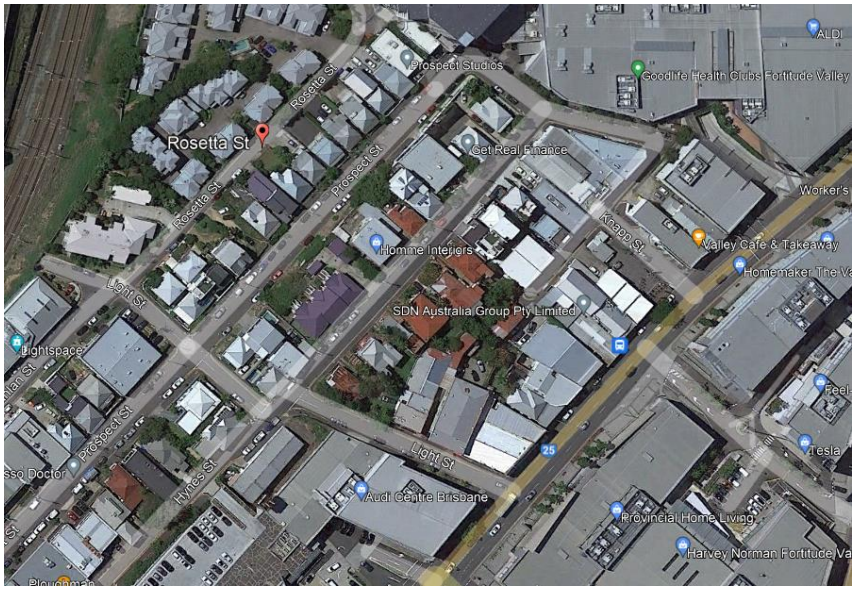
Henry Rosetta's wife, Mary Ann Rosetta, died at 81 years of age on 11 March 1898 at the residence of her son, Alonzo Sparkes of Leichhardt Street, Spring Hill. Mary also had a daughter (Amelia Louisa Sparkes) from her earlier marriage. On 29 September 1858, Zachariah Skyring married Amelia Louisa Sparkes.

Fortitude Valley (Brisbane) was once known as 'Bell's Valley', after Lieutenant Bell of the Moreton Bay Garrison. It was considered unattractive and even unsafe due to the risk of Aboriginal attacks because of growing resentment toward European settlement. The land was a swampy marsh. In a Brisbane Municipal Council Works Committee Report of 9 March 1903, reference was made to an application to the Treasury for the loan of £1,200 to defray the cost of proposed drainage works in the locality known as Rosetta's Swamp.

Behind the Audi dealership on Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley (at the end of Light Street) there is a short street named Rosetta Street. This was once the location of The Benedict Stone Factory, opened in 1929 and owned by the Catholic Church in Brisbane. It had been used to manufacture cast Benedict stone, a mixture of cement and crushed Brisbane tuff which was used on building facades as an alternative to full stone construction.

The factory was obtained through the Australian Army Hiring Service for the US Navy, which took possession from 22 September 1942 and converted the factory into a Torpedo Repair and Conditioning Shop. The large Submarine Base at New Farm was supplied with torpedos from the torpedo overhaul shop. The US Navy ceased operations on the site from 6 April 1945, after which it was occupied by the Royal Navy Fleet Air Wing. The Benedict Stone building was demolished around 1999 and Rosetta Street is once again a residential area.

The Benedict Stone Factory



Google Earth image of Rosetta Street, Fortitude Valley

The article on Henry Rosetta was compiled and contributed by FQPM Committee Members and Website Administrator Rob Cochrane.

Restoration of Arthur Crust Grave Completed – Toowong Cemetery

Plain Clothes Constable Arthur Crust was stationed at the Traffic Branch Brisbane when on the 26 November 1930 his motor cycle outfit collided with a car at Mayne Junction Brisbane. Constable Roy Beahan who was travelling in the sidecar was uninjured.

The FQPM has devoted considerable time and effort restoring the Crust grave to original standards, including replacing the headstone.

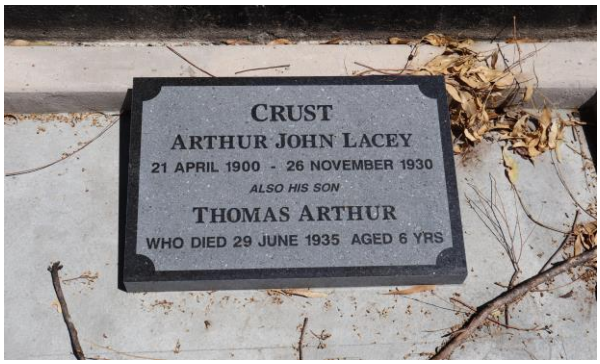
Left – Photograph of the Crust grave prior to restoration.

FQPM engaged Stone Masons T Wrafter & Sons to undertake the following work:

New concrete floor
Stamp floor
Lettering and Designs - Raised Natural, off-raised Natural Borders *Lettering Layout CRUST Arthur John Lacey 21 April 1900 - 26 November 1930 Also his son Thomas Arthur Who died 29 June 1935 Aged 6 yrs*
Stone Components - 610 x 400 x

100 - Australian Imperial Black Desk Special Requests: Core hole to front wall to release water
Extra to key to bricks for reinforcing
Install granite desk.

Completed Arthur Crust Grave.



Crust Plaque and Headstone

Presentation to Forensic Crash Unit (FCU) for contribution to the Sales of FQPM FCU Challenge Coins.

FQPM President Bob Burns presents Senior Constable David Armitage, Forensic Crash Unit (FCU) with a plaque commemorating the FCU contribution to the sales of FQPM FCU challenge coins. Presented at FQPM Meeting on the 6 October 2021.

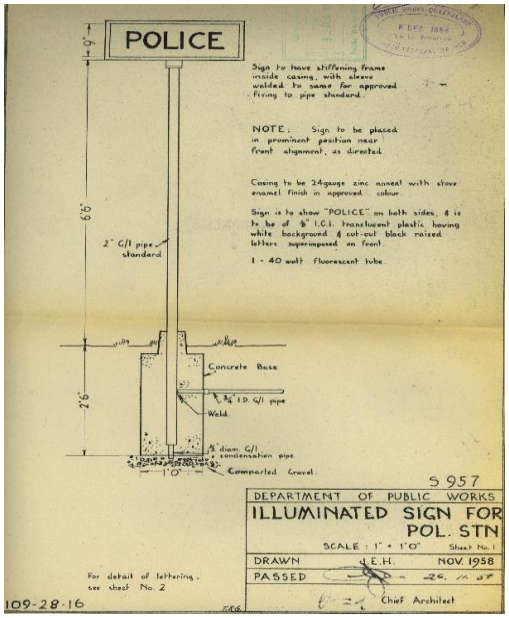
Police Station Identification

During the 19th century, police stations were not identified in any way, so if you wanted to find one you needed some luck or local knowledge.

In 1907, Police Commissioner William Cahill and the Deputy Queensland Government Architect, designed the Queensland Police Station Badge based on the police cap badge of the time. In 1911, 300 cast iron badges, each weighing 17 pounds (7kgs) and costing 4 shillings and 10 pence, were manufactured for the Police Department by Harvey & Son, Globe Iron Works, Brisbane and distributed as identification badges to every police station in the State.

On November 11, 1958 because of complaints that police stations were not readily identifiable, the Department of Works was

asked to supply conspicuous illuminated signs showing POLICE in black letters on a white background. On May 5, 1959, a sample illuminated sign was erected at Holland Park Police Station and with that success, an order was placed with Albert Smith and Son to manufacture these signs.



Over the next decade the illuminated signs were progressively installed at stations and the old style cast iron badges were returned to the Police Depot. Sometime in the late 1960s the illuminated word POLICE, was produced in white letters on a black background, and in the mid-1980s a blue light was added to the top for more effect.

ASSISTANCE SOUGHT

Superintendent Monique Ralph contacted the QPM and advised that a POLICE sign had been located during a clean-up at the Station. We are seeking assistance from FQPM members who may be able to date the sign for us. The Curator was of the view that it could be 1990's vintage. Photograph below.

Recently acquired POLICE Illuminated Sign

The FQPM is pleased to advise that we have been fortunate to provide financial assistance to transport the rather large plastic illuminated POLICE sign from the Cairns Police Station to the Queensland Police Museum

Laurie Pointing's Literary Contributions
"Keeping the Peace"

In 2006 Laurie Pointing attended a book launch at Charters Towers, where, Author, Marion Houldsworth, launched her book – "From the Gulf to God knows where". That launch was attended by the late Professor David Myers, AM founder of Central Queensland University Press, Outback Books. During discussions he said to Laurie, "There must be an abundance of stories out there from Queensland Retired Police Officers. Give it some thought and think about putting pen to paper". The die was cast.

He set about collecting stories from retired police and obtained a total of twenty six stories. He then looked for a publisher and Dan Kelly, Boolarong Press was recommended. When he received the manuscript he telephoned Laurie and said, "Goodness me, I just cannot put twenty six stories in one book; if I take it on it would have to be two volumes. Leave it with me and I will get back to you".

A few weeks later Dan telephoned Laurie and said," Col Chant, your former Union President is my father-in-law and I asked him if he knew you and he replied". "Yes I know Laurie Pointing. He's not a bad poor bugger", "so I will take you on board".

Laurie then had to direct his mind towards finance for the publication and will always be grateful to the Queensland Police Union of Employees, the Queensland Retired Police Association, the Queensland Police Officers Union and QBank for their generous sponsorship. Without sponsorship these four volumes would never have been published because the older you get and the longer you live the less money you have and the more you need.

Volume one "Keeping the Peace" was published in 2013, volume two in 2014 and Volume three in 2019. Volume 1V will be published in December 2021.

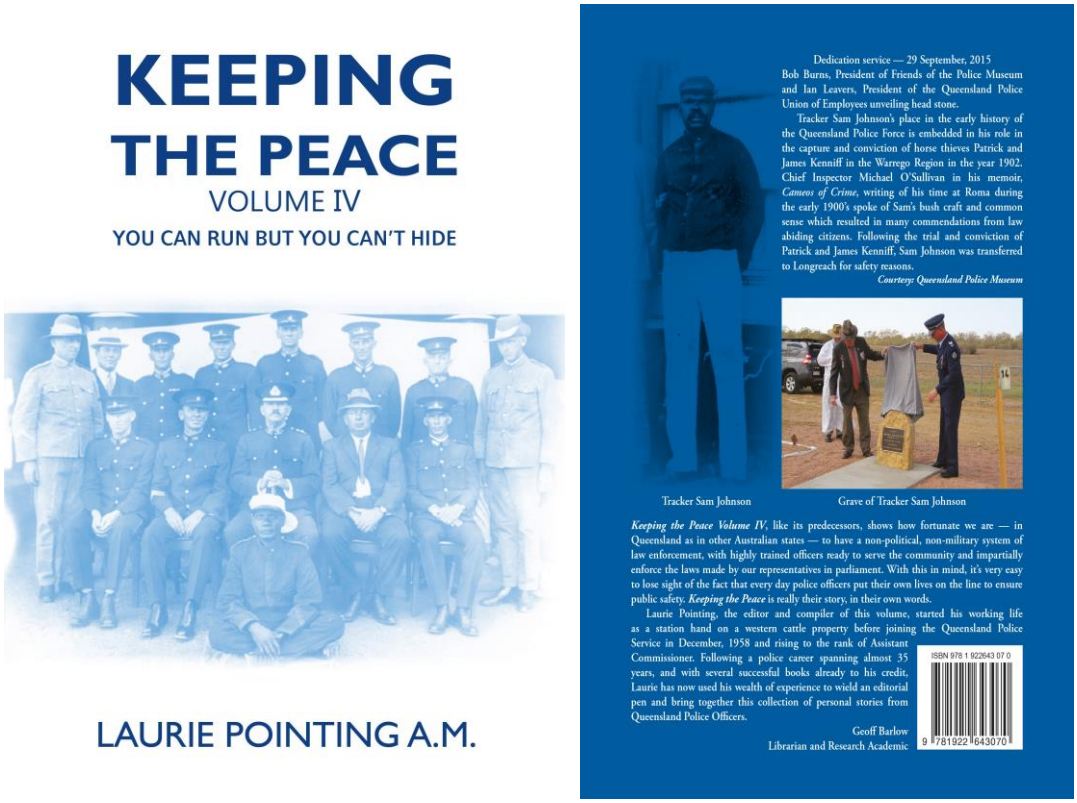
There are approximately forty positive stories from former police officers and people associated with police families and well over forty retired police officers mentioned in the four volumes and many photographs of retired officers as well.

First publication is referred to as "Keeping the Peace", the second as "Keeping the Peace", Volume II, the third "Keeping the Peace", Volume III and the fourth "Keeping the Peace", Volume IV.

The royalties from the first three volumes were directed to the Queensland Police Legacy Fund and royalties from Volume 1V will also go to them.

The books sell for $29-95 ($30-00) but Boolarong Press will sell the pack of FOUR for $100.00.

Books can be purchased from Boolarong Press- email address, publish@boolarongpress.com.au Telephone- 0419796205 or 0411027614.



The front and rear cover of the latest publication by Laurie Pointing – Keeping the Peace – Volume IV.

FQPM Annual General Meeting 6 October 2021

This year's FQPM Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in the Queensland Police Museum Seminar Room on Wednesday 6 October 2021. The election of officers took place and the following financial members were appointed unopposed to the Management Committee:

President	Bob Burns
Vice President	Geoff Sheldon
Treasurer	Wayne Coyne
Secretary	Ian Townsley
Committee Members	Kevin Darch
	Robert Cochrane (Website Administrator)
	John McCormack
	Rob McCall
	Kym Hyson
	Gerry Stevens

Additionally, the following appointments were accepted and extended during 2022:

Honorary Auditor	Wayne Osborne
Website IT Consultant	Open Web Design (Karen Lily)

FQPM members at the AGM held on Wednesday 7 October 2020 in the Seminar Room Queensland Police Museum.

From left: Gerry Stevens (Committee), Kevin Darch (Committee), Robert Cochrane (Committee), Kym Hyson (Committee), Jarrod Sefton (FQPM Member), Ian Townsley (Secretary), Bob Burns (President), Rob McCall (Committee), Wayne Coyne (Treasurer).

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 has 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. For contact numbers see page 15.

Forensic Crash Unit - 50 Year challenge coin

The limited edition Forensic Crash Unit challenge coins is 42mm across and beautifully finished in silver cupro nickel. The coin comes 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.

Commemorating Horses in Policing from 1864

This challenge coin commemorates and celebrates the value of the horse in policing from 1964 to the present.

The obverse of the coin shows the badges and motto of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum and the reverse an image of a mounted trooper.

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 the 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 member:

192 Stephen Jenkins – Dorrigo

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 online 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 2022

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 (2022) are as follows:

Wednesday 1000 hours 2 February 2022
Wednesday 1000 hours 6 April 2022
Wednesday 1000 hours 1 June 2022
Wednesday 1000 hours 3 August 2022
Wednesday 0900 hours 5 October 2022
Wednesday 1100 hours 5 October 2022 (AGM)
Wednesday 1000 hours 7 December 2022.

Ian Townsley
Secretary/Editor FQPM
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12 December 2021