THE FRIENDS' GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum
2nd Quarter 2023 Edition

FQPM President's Message

President's Message

The work carried out by members of the FQPM continues and it is my hope that those of us who are interested in the preservation of the police story in Queensland have an opportunity to assist with this work.

We are approaching that time of the year when we gather for our Annual General Meeting and the process of electing our incoming management committee for the next twelve months takes place. I would encourage all members to consider joining our team to assist in whatever way they feel they can.

We meet once every two months at the Queensland Police Museum in Police Headquarters and members must be financial at the time of the AGM. The meeting times are generally at 10.00 am on the first Wednesday of the meeting months commencing in February.

I would encourage members who wish to consider participating to check out our Gazette located on the FQPM web site for times and dates. Please consider attending any meeting as an observer and be encouraged to participate in any discussions. The secretary Ian Townsley will be forwarding AGM details to you all in the coming months. Thank you all for your continued interest.

Bob Burns APM
President FQPM

The most recently completed restoration QP grave project Senior Constable William Considine at Arrilalah

Background

William Considine joined the Queensland Police in 1877 and was promoted to Senior Constable in 1886, taking up a position in Arrilalah. The township of Arrilalah was situated at an important staging post at the Thomas River crossing, before the coming of the railway from the coast.

On the morning of 16 February 1887, Senior Constable Considine was thrown from his horse when charged by a wounded bullock. He received head injuries and died two days later without gaining consciousness.

As the towns of Longreach and Barcaldine grew in importance, Arrilalah slowly died. The police station closed in 1925 and the town ceased to

exist in the 1930's. Today the only visible reminder the township ever existed is the grave of Senior Constable William Considine.

His grave exists as a lonely reminder of the past, some 100 metres from the present dirt road which services several grazing properties along the Thompson River, south of Longreach.

Original Damage to Grave

In 2010, the grave was found in a state of disrepair and the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum (FQPM), with the assistance of the Longreach Police District, was able to restore it to its original state. This was to be the first project taken up by the FQPM to research and identify the location of the graves of Queensland Police Service officers who have died in the course of their service.

Grave of Senior Constable William Considine at Arrilalah. Before and after restoration 2010.

In 2022, information was received by the FQPM that the Considine grave at Arrilalah was in a very poor state of repair. It was agreed by the FQPM Committee that this restoration was to be treated as a project of some importance. Inquiries were made in the local area for a skilled mason or contractor who could effect the necessary repairs.

Smith Brothers (Hardware) at Longreach after a process of elimination were engaged. They immediately undertook an inspection of the grave location and reported that there was a need to increase the depth of the footing and possibly glue the sandstone cross back together with threaded rod, Chemset (a multi-purpose polyester adhesive) and Sikaflex (construction adhesive) or similar. A general clean-up was also needed. Estimate of cost was approximately $2000. Smith Brothers were the closest contractors to Arrilalah which is about five hours round trip from Longreach.

On the 1 June 2023, FQPM were advised by Marty Smith (Smith Brothers) that the job was completed. The base slab was over 300mm deep and required Chemset rods to secure. The top of the monument went back on

well. The contractors cleaned the monument and removed the grass and growth surrounding the fenced area. The final cost was surprisingly less than the quoted price.

Finalised William Considine grave and surrounds 2023.

Queensland Police – More Subjects of Historic Interest

The FQPM Management Committee are pleased to include in this edition of the Gazette further QP historic articles prepared by former Assistant Commissioner and FQPM Life Member, Greg Early. These articles relate to both operational and administrative Queensland Police matters. Although these articles were written some time ago, this does not diminish the historic value and interest in the information.

Numbers on the hoods of operational police vehicles

One morning, near where I live in Brisbane, I noticed a helicopter circling for some time. I presume its occupants were looking for something on the ground. I immediately thought that police vehicles may be involved and if they were the occupants of the helicopter would not be able to give accurate directions to the police officers in those vehicles. Why is this so?

Soon after being transferred to Gympie in February 1988 as the Regional Superintendent of the North Coast Region, I became aware of the sterling service given to the community by the Sunshine Coast Helicopter Rescue Service. Major Jim Campbell was then the chief pilot of its one helicopter. (Mr. Des Scanlan, a long-time supporter of the Police Service, was the part-owner of the helicopter service and Jim later became the chief executive officer. He retired in recent years and at that time I believe they had three helicopters).

When police officers wanted to use this service, the activation of the helicopter had to be authorised by a commissioned officer. Inspectors Des Melksham and Tony Olsen were the officers attached to the Sunshine Coast District. They used to make the authorisations but, on a few occasions, I gave them via the radio in my police vehicle.

Sterling service to the community is really an understatement. While many of their callouts were for medivacs, a lot of them were to assist police in searches, in gaining access to rugged country, during floods in Gympie and district, and so on. Great liaison existed with the Nambour General Hospital and all police officers in the region. I believe that situation still exists today. I recently saw on television, a helicopter—probably one from the service mentioned—putting down on the Bruce Highway north of Caboolture, to convey an injured motorist to hospital.

In 1988 or 1989, Jim suggested to me that the 'Police Force' as it was then called, should consider placing numbers on the hoods of operational vehicles. His reasoning—which I can recall distinctly—was that often they had located a wanted person, say in bush, and if there were more than one police vehicle nearby, they could *not* indicate to the police vehicles where the wanted person was located, in relation to the police vehicles.

As a result of a submission I made to a Regional Superintendents Conference, numbers were placed on the hoods of Metropolitan North Region's traffic vehicles. I can recall at a subsequent conference the result of the trial being discussed. Some leeching-damage of the paintwork was indicated. As a result of few, if any, other regional superintendents having access to helicopters at that time, little support was given to a continuance of my suggestion.

To my knowledge nothing more was done about the idea until an incident came to my notice in December 1997 on probably the first or second day that I had been in charge of the South Eastern Region. I was in my police vehicle going towards Coolangatta when I heard on the police radio about a chase of a wanted vehicle by two or three police vehicles. They were on the Gold Coast-Springbrook Road and the radio operator was having difficulty in advising the occupants of the police vehicles where the wanted vehicle was in relation to their cars.

Again, at the first opportunity, I raised the matter of the numbering of operational police vehicles at an appropriate conference. I distinctly recall that a further trial was to be conducted in the North Coast Region. I presume that the trial did not result in a decision being taken to number

police vehicles because to this day I have never seen one numbered in this State. My recollection of my travels in all other states and territories is that most, if not all, operational vehicles I have seen have borne numbers on the hoods.

We have all heard of the pleas for a police helicopter in Brisbane. That may happen one day, but it will not be as efficient as in other states unless Queensland operational police vehicles have numbers on their hoods. I believe that advances have been made with stick-on numbers and signs, so much so that they can be removed without the paintwork being damaged in any way.

FOOTNOTE: In the policing of G20 in Brisbane in November 2014, I saw for the first time some QPS vehicles with numbers on the top thereof. I emphasise that some and this was good to see because of the involvement now of QPS helicopters and the possible use during G20 of ADF helicopters. In September 2017, I spoke with Assistant Commissioner Mike Condon about having the officer in charge of POLAIR to speak to a Queensland Retired Police Association meeting at Police Headquarters. I had emailed him a copy of this article. He mentioned something about not being able to get magnetic numbers of sufficient quality to stay on vehicles; also, that in his view it will never happen. I have since spoken to Ian Gordon, at the Transport Section, and he says it will be possible to get numbers to stay on vehicles. I recall doing this with my Regional Duty Officer's vehicle at Metro North Region. However, I was directed by then Deputy Commissioner Bill Aldrich to take the number off the car.

The Police Boot

Recently I was preparing to go to a rodeo with a friend who mentioned to me that I really should wear a pair of boots to be 'with it'. As most police officers always had a good stock of uniform items, I went in search of a pair of police boots and found a pair among my hoardings.

On reflection, these boots—while never worn—would have to be about twelve-years old at least. They could be much older because I do not recall wearing boots as a commissioned officer although my recollection is that it was optional because as a commissioned officer—until about 1989—we purchased our own footwear with our uniform allowance. Again, from recollection, the Newnham Administration introduced a policy to supply uniforms to all members and I believe that that policy remains today.

When I retrieved this pair of police boots, my memory went back to 1956 when I became a Police Cadet and the emphasis then placed on police boots. That is really what I am going to write about anyway.

Initially, I worked in the Records Section of the old Roma Street Police Station (some of our members will not realise that it was in between the current Carlton Crest Hotel and the Suncorp-Metway Building). The 'in thing' among cadets (there were about a hundred of us) was to wear

police boots with our civilian attire. We all worked with uniformed police officers and most if not all of them would part with a pair of boots for a price.

City police had black boots while country police were tan coloured. Quite often you could get a pair of tan boots and you then made them black with raven oil. I think that my first boots were tanned and were even second-hand. The boots in 1956 and for many years thereafter, were made by the Boot Co-operative. Later on the contract went to Leslie Shoes.

While I wore police boots for many years as a cadet and a police officer, I know that many others in the community also wore police boots. For example my late father was a carpenter and he—through my efforts in purchasing or exchanging boots (you could always exchange sizes at the Police Store)—wore them for probably twenty years at work and later in his retirement.

You could always tell a Queensland police boot by its appearance generally and particularly its height (much the same as the current army boot). They always seemed to be very comfortable and protective of one's feet.

While I never broke with tradition and wore them. Later, the elastic sided boot became available and many of my colleagues turned to them probably because they were easier to get on and off. I imagine they would have been popular with country police particularly who had to then, and no doubt still do on occasions turn out to duty as quickly as possible.

Another positive with the police boot was the ability to go to the place where they were made and exchange a new pair for a new pair of shoes. Many police officers did this over the years and probably some of our readers may be saying, 'I didn't know about that little lurk'.

The preceding three articles were provided by former Assistant Commissioner and FQPM Life Member Greg Early.

David Thompson Seymour Grave Hither Green UK

As part of an ongoing program of gravesite restorations, FQPM members sought to locate the grave, restore the headstone if required and install a plaque acknowledging David Thompson Seymour's place in the history of the Queensland Police, particularly on its 150th year in 2014.

Despite being born in Ireland and serving in Australia, Mr Seymour passed away in England in 1916 and was buried in Hither Green Cemetery, Lewisham, England.

Information was received by FQPM that damage had been sustained to the Monument on the Seymour grave. The cross had been broken off. The cause of the damage is unknown.

David Thompson Seymour damaged grave at Hither Green Cemetery, Lewisham, UK

A local Stone Mason, Perry Scott Memorials who was engaged to undertake the original restoration in 2014 was again contacted to assess the damage and provide a quote to repair the cross on the monument.

The FQPM has again contacted Perry Scott to assess the damage and provide a quote to retore its original image. The damage was subsequently repaired by affixing a stainless-steel pin into the cross upright and then attached with industrial adhesive. The cost of the repairs amounted to AU$576.38.

The repaired grave of David Thompson Seymour, Hither Green, London, UK, 2023.

Queensland Police Museum's 130th Birthday.

The following invitation has been extended to the members of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum Inc from the Curator of the Queensland Police Museum to attend the 130th Birthday of the Queensland Police Museum:

FQPM Members are welcome to join us on Monday 27 November 2023 for the ***Queensland Police Museum's 130th Birthday****.*

Also, on this occasion we will be unveiling a plaque dedicated to Gabrielle Flynn the first permanent Curator of the QPM and launching the *Flynn Gallery and Seminar Room*.

Monday 27 November
10:00am – 11.30am
QPM Seminar Room
RSVP by midday Wednesday 22 November

Lisa Jones
Curator
P: 3364 6425
E: Jones.LisaA@police.qld.gov.au

QUEENSLAND POLICE MUSEUM

WEEKDAY OPENING TIMES
Monday to Thursday
9am–4pm

WEEKEND OPENING TIMES
Last Sunday of the month
(February to November)
10am–3pm

QUEENSLAND POLICE MUSEUM
Ground floor, Police Headquarters
200 Roma Street, Brisbane
GPO Box 1440, Brisbane, Qld 4001
Subscribe to our Blog
mypolice.gov.au/museum
Watch on livestream.com/queenslandpolice

News Reports From 150 Years Ago

Reported in The Queenslander – Saturday, 30 August 1873

Brisbane Police Court - Tuesday, 26 August 1873

A "Young Swell" - John Flynn and Joseph Mann, appeared on remand and were charged with having had goods in their possession for which they could not account. Flynn, a labourer, generally worked on the wharves, but paid an occasional visit to the Police Court. Mann was a seaman on board the *Margaret Ann*, a cutter trading between Brisbane and the Logan and Albert.

The goods supposed to have been stolen were described as "grog" consisting of three bottles of brandy and four bottles of sarsaparilla. Inspector Lewis prosecuted the matter and Sergeant Brown who had arrested the prisoners was called to give evidence. Sergeant Brown stated that he met Flynn in Eagle Street, not far from Toes' Hotel, at about 12.45am on the previous Sunday morning. Flynn could not give a

satisfactory account of the goods which he carried in a bag on his back, so he was arrested and taken to the lock up.

After the arrest, Mann came up and put his hand on Flynn's shoulder and enquired, "Jack, where are you going to?" Sergeant Brown replied, "It is nothing to you where Jack is going." On reaching the watchhouse, Flynn said the grog had been given to him by a young swell on board the *Margaret Ann* and Mann was later arrested the same night.

His Worship enquired whether the prisoners had anything to say to the charge, and Flynn turning to Mann said, "I never saw this gentleman before that night [Mann smiled], he asked me to carry the bag for him and I thought he was going on an excursion trip." Mann retorted "I picked you up, but gave you no grog, my friend." Both men were sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour on the roads or public works of the colony, His Worship remarking that he had little doubt the drink had been taken from Toes' Hotel.

Reported in The Brisbane Courier - Friday, 23 November 1873

Brisbane Police Court – Thursday, 22 November 1873

William Langley, a bootmaker of Brisbane, appeared on summons charged that on 2 November 1873 at the Wharf Street Baptist Church he wilfully, maliciously, and contemptuously molests, disturb, vex and trouble the preacher and congregation.

Mr Griffith (instructed by Mr W H Wilson) appeared for the complainant stating that the prosecution had been brought to put a stop to what had really become intolerable. He called William Rooney, a member of the church, who stated that the congregation assembled for religious worship on the Sunday in question and that defendant was present out near the front of the pulpit and in view of the congregation. During the second prayer, Rooney saw Langley holding up a paper - the Church News - level with his face. Rooney who sat just a few seats behind Langley could read the advertisements.

As the paper was not put down at the conclusion of the prayer, Rooney rose and informed the minister (the Rev B G Wilson) that he (Rooney) could not worship God while there was a person holding up a newspaper, with advertisements before his eyes. Mr Wilson replied that anyone disturbing the congregation could be removed and Rooney went for a policeman. The policeman's services were 'not called into requisition' as, according to another witness, Langley laid the paper on his knee and read on during the service.

Corroborative evidence was given by the Rev. B. G. Wilson and Henry Cray, who stated that the defendant had frequently annoyed the

congregation on previous occasions. Langley cross examined Cray at considerable length, asking such questions as whether he made a noise with the paper, or fanned himself, or whether people did not read their Bibles in church, instead of listening to the sermon, turning perhaps to the Book of Kings.

The Board decided that a prima facie case had been made out and the accused (Langley), who reserved his defence, was committed to take his trial at the Metropolitan District Court, commencing on 16 December 1873 and was required to find two sureties of £50 each for his appearance.

Contributed by FQPM Committee and Life Member Rob Cochrane.

Merchandise items make great gifts, a memento of something special in your life or perhaps an item of interest for collectors. All proceeds from the sale of FQPM merchandise assists the organisation to preserve the history of policing in Queensland for future generations.

Challenge Coins

The FQPM has a variety of interesting challenge coins ranging from the standard edition FQPM challenge coin to special edition coins commemorating events in the history of policing in Queensland. The price of each challenge coin is **$15** or **$12** each for FQPM members. How to receive a member's discount is outlined below;

Standard Edition

These 42mm challenge coins are beautifully finished in silver cupro-nickel and come in a clear protective cover. The obverse side depicts the badge of the FQPM which is based on the Queensland Police helmet badge in use from 1906 – 1960. The reverse side depicts the current Queensland Police Service badge which was introduced in 1990.

Women in Policing
These limited-edition challenge coins are the same size and quality finish as the standard edition FQPM challenge coins. The reverse side depicts a policewoman directing traffic and it is based on a photograph of a policewoman from the 1980s. The coin recognises just one of the many roles' women play in the Queensland Police Service.

Queensland Mounted Police
To acknowledge the contribution that horses made to policing in Queensland since 1864, this challenge coin is similar in size and finish as the standard FQPM challenge coin. The reverse side depicts a silver raised 3D image of a mounted constable (circa 1950) in the police paddock at Oxley near the current site of the Queensland Police Academy.

Forensic Crash Unit
This limited-edition challenge coin was struck to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Queensland Police Service Forensic Crash Unit. Similar in size and finish to the standard challenge coin, the reverse side of this coin depicts a silver raised 3D image of an Accident Investigation Squad vehicle from the 1980s and two investigators.

Since its inception on 1 June 1970, the original Traffic Accident Appreciation Squad has gone through several name changes (Traffic Accident Investigation Squad, Accident Investigation Squad) and it is now known as the Forensic Crash Unit.

Stubby Holders

The FQPM stubby holders depict the five types of Queensland Police hat badge that have existed since 1884. The price of each stubby holder is **$7** or **$5** each for FQPM members. How to receive a member's discount is outlined below.

Polo Shirts

These smart looking polo shirts have the badge of the FQPM embroidered on the left breast. They are made from 65% Polyester for durability and 35% Cotton for comfort. The fabric is 210gsm pique for easy care and reduced pilling. A variety of colours is available, and they come in male and female sizes. The price of each polo shirt is **$40.** There is no member's discount on polo shirts.

Member's Discount
Members of the FQPM are eligible for a **discount** on some FQPM merchandise by contacting **Melissa Kirkpatrick** at Queensland Police Service Headquarters. Melissa's contact details are:

(P) +61 7 3364 4464
(P) +61 7 3364 3042

Orders can be either posted (postage extra) or picked up from Melissa at Queensland Police Headquarters, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane 4000. Do not forget to ask for your **member's discount**. Alternatively, any queries regarding FQPM merchandise can be made to the FQPM Secretary at secretary@friendsqpmuseum.com.au

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 Queensland Police Headquarters, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane. The **QSHOP** is open to the public each Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am – 2 pm. The **QSHOP** can be contacted at hello@qphra.com

QPS Collar Badges Clearance Sale

The FQPM have a small quantity of Queensland Police Service (QPS) collar badges for sale. These badges were used in connection with the development of a 150 Year commemorative sword.

The badges are 38 mm high and 30 mm wide and made of metal, like the QPS hat badge. The rear attachment is a single pin with a clutch grip.

They will be sold as a pair and can be worn on QPS mess dress.

Pair QPS Collar Badges (3rd badge is sample of rear attachment)

The badges can be purchased for $15.00 a pair or ($10.00 pair to FQPM Members) in addition to (P & P $3.60 within Australia).

Any inquiries/orders can be directed to the Secretary FQPM.

Ian Townsley
Secretary FQPM
(07)3351 2797
0414421347
secretary@friendsqpmuseum.com.au

FQPM Management Committee 2023/2024

The 2023/2024 FQPM Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in the Queensland Police Museum Seminar Room on Wednesday 5 October 2022.

The election of officers was held, 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
	Gerry Stevens

Additionally, the following appointments were accepted and extended during 2023:

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

Nomination for Positions on the FQPM Management Committee

On **Wednesday 4 October 2023 at 11.00 am**, the FQPM will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Queensland Police Museum, Ground Floor, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane. At this meeting, all positions on the Management Committee will be vacated to elect a new Committee in accordance with the Association's Rules and Constitution.

If you have an interest in policing history or would just like to volunteer to help the Queensland Police Museum preserve the history of the QPS, **we invite you to consider nominating yourself or another FQPM member for a position on the Management Committee.**

Apart from helping to collect and preserve the proud history of the QPS, **other official functions of the FQPM Management Committee are;**

- the general control and management of the administration of the affairs and funds of the Association

In addition to this, the Management Committee upholds and promotes the Objects of the Association which include;

- To enhance and effectively share knowledge about Queensland Police heritage by promoting related movable cultural heritage in the community.

- To restore, refurbish, enhance, preserve, or acquire sites/objects of Queensland Police historic or heritage significance.

Should you wish to consider a position on the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum Management Committee and require additional information, please contact FQPM Secretary, Ian Townsley on (07) 33512797 or secretary@friendsqpmusuem.com.au.

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 offers 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 and Upgraded Members

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

196	Len Symss - Douglas
197	Maureen Innes – Gaythorne
198	Jeff Campbell – Esk
175	Gary Doherty – now Life Member

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 (Friends' 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, while 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 2023

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 this year (2023) are as follows:

Wednesday 1000 hours 2 August 2023
Wednesday 0900 hours 4 October 2023
Wednesday 1100 hours 4 October 2023 (AGM)
Wednesday 1000 hours 7 December 2023.

Ian Townsley
Secretary/Editor FQPM
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10 March 2023