THE FRIENDS' GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum
Established 2007
HISTORY - HERITAGE - HONOUR
3rd Quarter 2024 Edition

FQPM President's Message

The post Covid period has finally allowed some projects that were thrown out of kilter during that period to be progressed to a stage that now allows us to move onto the next round of activity particularly in relation to the grave restoration projects. The first of these relates to the grave of William Quinlan in the Ayr cemetery. Progressing on another front is the national project to establish a Museum of Australian Policing in Canberra with funding now in place to renovate a former heritage listed building not far from the National Museum of Australia precinct.

We are fast approaching our Annual General Meeting and I invite all members where possible to respond to the meeting notice sent out earlier this month. Thank you to those new members who have taken up the option of subscribing by way of the life membership process.

The recent appointment of Ian Leavers to a new position as Border Commissioner prompts me to acknowledge the support that he the Queensland Police Union provided to the FQPM from time to time. He goes to his new position with our best wishes.

Thanks again to all our members for their continued support.

Bob Burns APM President FQPM

Museum of Australian Policing (MoAP)

The establishing of a national police museum was discussed as far back as 2003 ahead of the development of the National Police Memorial in 2006. AFP Commissioner Reece Kershaw re-commenced discussions with the state Police Commissioners in 2020.

An existing building has been secured as the location which is adjacent to the National Museum of Australia on Acton Peninsula in Canberra.

Initially the AFP is managing the establishment of the museum, however the administrative governance arrangements have been decided by the state commissioners who sit on the Board of Management.

The MoAP will showcase policing in various forms and will be nationally integrated. For example, if there is a permanent exhibition on 'women in policing' or a temporary exhibition on 'Police and Protests"', it would incorporate input from all State and Territory police and the AFP.

State and Territory police will provide strategic input into any discussions to ensure a truly national approach. A design consultancy specializing in experiential projects has been engaged to work with the project team to deliver a truly meaningful and memorable visitor experience. A completion date for the project is not yet identified.

The Mystery of the Stirrup Iron

By Wayne Coyne.

While going through my father's old locker, I came across a stirrup iron on one of the shelves. The stirrup iron is branded 'QLD POLICE'. The maker's mark is 'J Birch's A1' and it is stamped 'Solid Nickel Silver'.

I can recall some time ago, then Deputy Commissioner Brett Pointing making reference to someone being in possession of a stirrup iron, but the significance of it was never established. A theory was that it may relate to the Royal Visit by Queen Elizabeth II in 1954.

From the memory of a 6 year old in 1951, I can recall my father going to Oxley to train for a Royal Visit by then Princess Elizabeth which was to take place in that year. This Visit did not proceed due to the death of her father, King George VI, whilst she was on the African leg of that Tour.

As a consequence of the cancellation of that event, those extra personnel who were involved in the preparations returned to their Stations. Not and all of the original group of police officers returned for mounted duty when the Royal Visit eventually went ahead in 1954.

My theory is that the stirrup iron may have been given to those officers who were to have taken part in the cancelled 1952 event.

My father never mentioned the significance of the stirrup iron and I am keen to find out the real story for the sake of history. Anyone with information that can help to solve this mystery will be much appreciated.

Photo: QP Museum

Royal Visit 1954 Queen Street, Brisbane with QP Mounted Police escort.

Constable Nathaniel Roberts project.

Bob Burns and Gerry Stevens with the final piece of the jig saw to be erected in Windorah this year.

The last piece of the Constable Nathaniel Roberts project will finally be completed. The actual location of the Roberts grave is on private property in a remote part of Connemara Station via Jundah in western Queensland. In order to provide a more convenient public place of honour for this unfortunate young officer, a memorial plaque will be placed on an existing monument rock in Windorah.

The monument rock is located in Albert Street just around the corner from the Windorah Police Station and already contains a similar plaque erected by Commissioner Jim O'Sullivan relating to the death of another officer Constable Thomas Callaghan who perished in 1888 in similar circumstances.

In order to expedite this matter the local police officer has agreed to assist with the placement of the plaque on the monument rock.

Honouring our People

Gregory James OLIVE
Constable First Class Reg No 5676

Constable 1/c Greg Olive was stationed at the Kelvin Grove Police Station where on the 19th February 1962 he took a complaint from a person who lived on Kelvin Grove Road across from the station. The complaint related to a series of wilful damage activities committed at the premises of the complainant and believed to have been committed by his neighbour.

Constable Olive went to the suspects premises about 50 meters from the Kelvin Grove Police Station to make a routine investigation into the wilful damage to property. The suspect was a 'naturalised Australian' named Piotr Michalewicz, a 47 year old unemployed labourer.

After Constable Olive had knocked on the door it was flung open and Olive was shot in the chest at near point blank range with a.303 rifle.
He staggered backwards to the footpath and then collapsed. A passing Army medical officer observed the incident, saw Constable Olive stagger from the house, stopped his vehicle but was unable to assist Olive as he died instantly.

Sergeant Stewart Walker hearing the gun shot from the police station arrived and after failing to talk the man out of the house a shoot-out occurred before police stormed the house and took the man, who was wounded, into custody.

Michalewicz was charged with the wilful murder of Constable Olive and later pleaded guilty, the jury agreed and he was sentenced to life

imprisonment. Michalewicz was released in 1984 after serving 22 years however he was back in prison by 1985 where he died aged 80.

Michalewicz had spent 11 years in the Polish Army many of which had been spent in Stalag Camps during World War II as a prisoner of war. He emigrated to Australia in 1950. Michalewicz was terrified of persons in authority or anyone in uniform as a result of inhuman treatment in the concentration camps.

Sergeant Walker was later awarded the George Medal for his actions in apprehending Michalewicz.

Twenty eight year old Constable First Class Gregory James Olive was sworn-in as a Constable on the 4th February 1954. He was a married man and at the time of his death on 19th February 1962 was 28 years of age. He was buried with full police honours in Toowong Cemetery.

Constable 1/c G J Olive is remembered on the Queensland Police Memorial, Botanical Gardens, Brisbane and the National Police Memorial in Canberra.

A Queensland Water Police vessel is also named in his honour.

In 2013 The FQPM was notified of damage to the headstone of Constable Olive where a coloured ceramic photograph of Olive in his police uniform was irreparably damaged. Since we were unable to locate the original photographic image, a copy of his police identity card photograph enabled a new ceramic image to be manufactured and thus effect a repair.

FQPM Members Ian Townsley, Bob Burns and Greg Early
at the gravesite following restoration of ceramic photograph of Greg Olive

This article was prepared from information and research by FQPM member Gerry Stevens.

FQPM Merchandise FOR SALE

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.

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

Any queries regarding merchandise can be made to the FQPM Merchandise Officer at: *merchandise@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

Rob Cochrane
Merchandise Officer FQPM
merchandise@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 4 October 2023.

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	Debra Austin
Committee Members	Kevin Darch
	Robert Cochrane (Website Administrator)
	John McCormack
	Rob McCall
	Gerry Stevens
	Ian Townsley

Additionally, the following appointments were accepted and extended during 2024:

Honorary Auditor	Wayne Osborne
Website IT Consultant	Open Web Design (Karen Lily)
Commissioners Advocate	S/Sgt Mel Wilkins

Membership

Membership of 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.

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 Frederic 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 2024

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 (2024) are as follows:

Wednesday 0900 hours 2 October 2024
Wednesday 1100 hours 2 October 2024 (AGM)
Wednesday 1000 hours 4 December 2024

Bob Burns
Editor FQPM
0423100786
19 September 2024